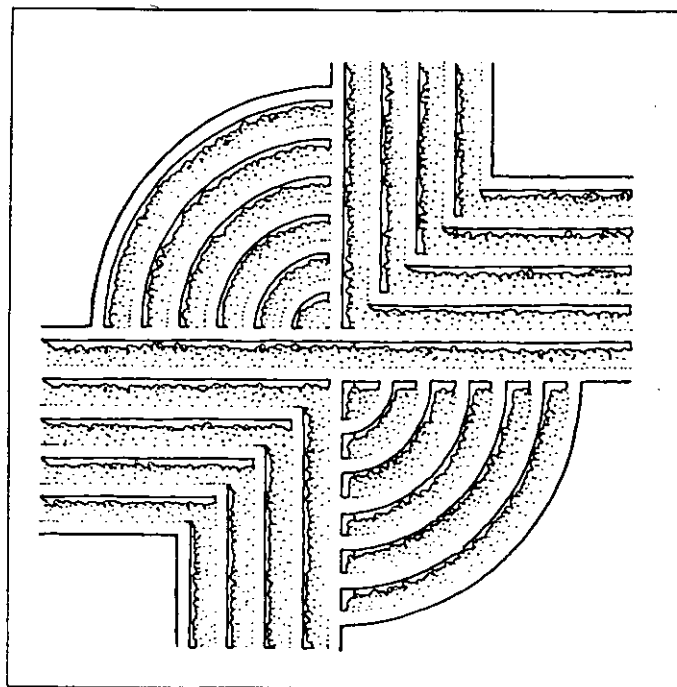


ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE OF THE
MULLET HALL TRACT, JOHNS ISLAND,
CHARLESTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE OF THE
MULLET HALL TRACT, JOHNS ISLAND,
CHARLESTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

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ABSTRACT

This reconnaissance level study was undertaken by Chicora Foundation to evaluate the archaeological potential of the Mullet Hall Plantation tract for Kiawah Resort Associates. The investigations have concentrated on suspected historic sites, including main plantation complexes, slave settlements, and cemeteries, although some attention has also been given to potential Native American sites.

One previously recorded archaeological site (38CH487) was revisited and 11 new archaeological sites (38CH1539 - 38CH1549) were recorded (including three cemeteries). While a reconnaissance level investigation is not typically intended to provide National Register eligibility assessments, it is possible to offer tentative professional opinions regarding potential site significance. Readers should be aware that these recommendations are based on limited field investigations and may change as additional research is conducted. They do, however, offer an initial assessment to help guide long-range planning in a cost-effective manner.

Two of the identified sites (38CH1548 and 38CH1549) are cemeteries. No above-ground evidence for a third reputed cemetery could be found during these studies. One cemetery (38CH1548) is relatively well defined by the surrounding agricultural field. The other cemetery (38CH1549) has been extensively damaged by the current property owner and requires considerable attention (recovering and restoring markers, and delimiting the cemetery boundaries). These sites are not only potentially eligible for the forensic anthropological information they contain, but are also protected by South Carolina State Law. The third cemetery likely exists, but will require extensive archaeological investigations to identify any reasonable boundaries and, at this time, has not been recorded.

Three of the identified sites (38CH1539, 38CH1544, and 38CH1546) are recommended as likely not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. At least one (38CH1539) represents materials redeposited from elsewhere (probably downtown Charleston), while the others are either very small or represent tenant sites with very limited data sets.

Seven of the identified archaeological sites (38CH487, 38CH1540, 38CH1541, 38CH1542, 38CH1543, 38CH1545, and 38CH1547) are likely eligible or potentially eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. These represent the remains of three distinct plantation settlements, including main complexes and slave rows, situated on what is today Mullet Hall. In general boundaries for each site have been identified. A general "feeling" for the types of data sets present and the nature of the research questions each site could address has been obtained. In several cases it is likely that more intensive field investigations will be necessary to either determine eligibility or to develop a data recovery plan.

The potential for Native American sites is relatively high in a few areas of the plantation, especially along the wetland creeks on the southern third of the plantation. In general, however, these sites have been extensively damaged by either plowing or dredging operations. It is unlikely that potentially significant Native American sites will be encountered on the plantation.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Figures	iii
List of Tables	iii
Introduction	1
Effective Environment	5
Physiography and Geology	
Climate	
Floristics	
Prehistoric and Historic Synopsis	10
Previous Research	
Prehistoric Synopsis	
Paleoindian and Archaic Periods	
Early Woodland	
Middle Woodland	
Late Woodland and South Appalachian Mississippian	
Protohistoric	
Brief History of the Mullet Hall Tract	
Field Methods	24
Sites Identified	27
Previously Identified Archaeological Sites	
New Sites	
38CH1539	
38CH1540	
38CH1541	
38CH1542	
38CH1543	
38CH1544	
38CH1545	
38CH1546	
38CH1547	
38CH1548	
38CH1549	
Conclusions	34
Eligible or Potentially Eligible Sites	
Sites Which Are Likely Not Eligible	
Cemeteries	
Future Survey Work	
Sources Cited	38

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		
1.	Vicinity of the project area	2
2.	Project area showing identified sites	3
3.	Thornton-Morden map of 1695 showing the project area	11
4.	Woodland Period phases	13
5.	Mills' Atlas of 1825 showing the project area	19
6.	1854 Coastal Survey map showing area plantations	20
7.	1863 Map of Charleston	21
8.	1929 Sanitary Commission map of the project area	22
9.	J.T. Killock Property Map	23
10.	1942 General Highway and Transportation Map	23
11.	Plowed fields on the Mullet Hall tract	25
12.	Site 38CH1539	25
13.	38CH1540, showing the four areas identified in the survey	29

LIST OF TABLES

Table		
1.	Summary of identified sites	34

INTRODUCTION

Chicora Foundation was requested by Mr. Ray Pantlik of Kiawah Resort Associates (KRA) to submit a budgetary proposal for an archaeological reconnaissance level survey of the Mullet Hall tract containing approximately 1020 acres. Specifically, the study was to address:

- the potential for the existence of cultural resources in the project area,
- the nature of disturbances in the area and the likelihood that they might have affected any identified cultural resources, and
- the potential eligibility of any identified cultural resources on the tract (within the scope and ability of a reconnaissance investigation).

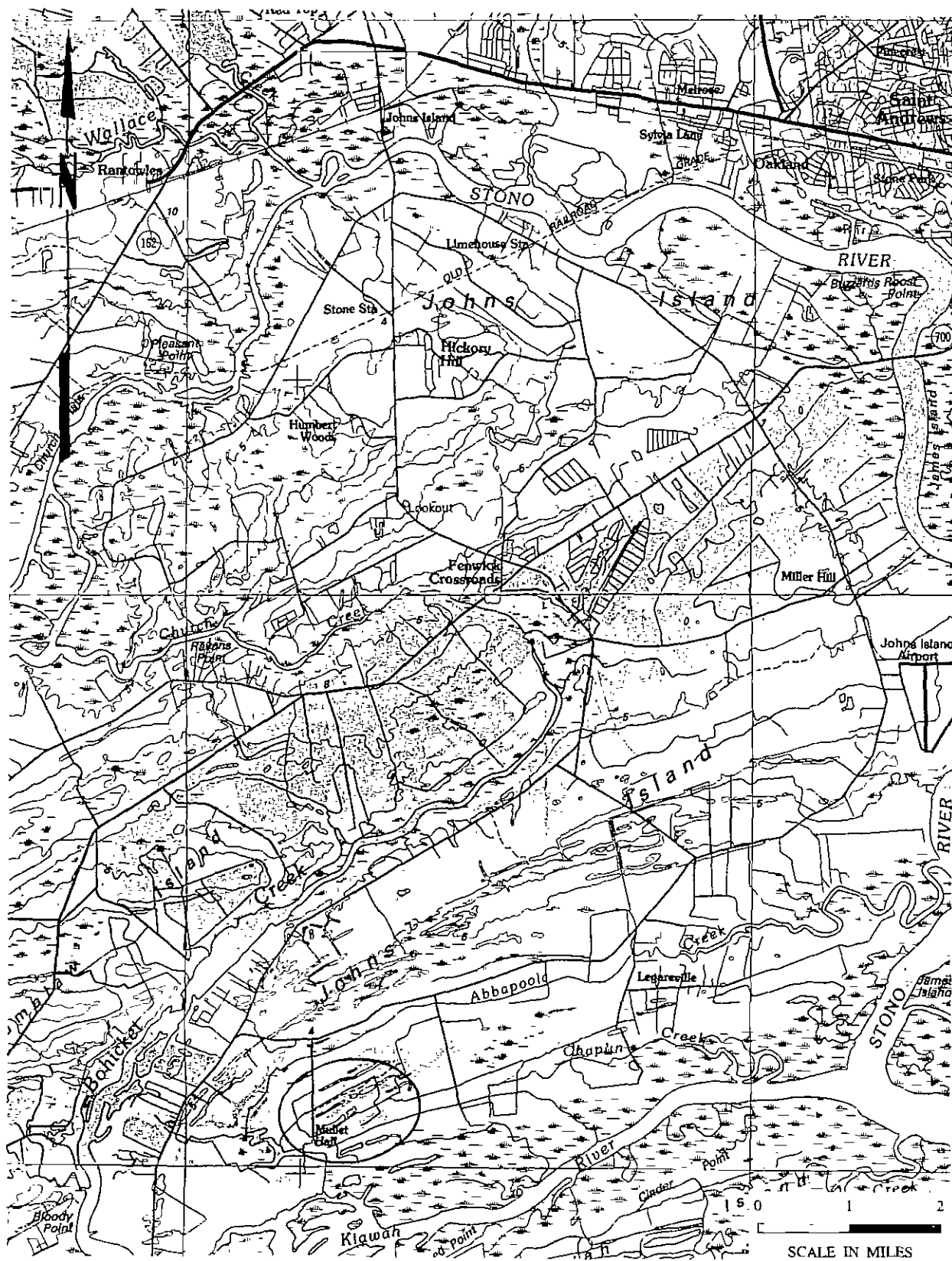
Chicora Foundation provided a budgetary proposal and a brief outline of the tasks involved in a reconnaissance level study during a meeting on August 22, 1994. The proposed work would consist of :

- a review of the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology site files;
- coordination with the S.C. State Historic Preservation Office for any National Register sites or previous architectural surveys in the immediate area;
- a professional assessment addressing the likelihood of identifying archaeological or historical sites in the project area, based on a review of previously identified sites, a review of pertinent nineteenth and twentieth century cartographic sources, and our professional experience in the project area; and
- five field days to examine areas with good surface visibility (e.g. road cuts and plowed fields) as well as areas with high archaeological probability, such as dry ridges adjacent to the marsh.

Kiawah Resort Associates accepted this proposal on August 24, 1994. Ms. Natalie Adams examined the site files of the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. Dr. Michael Trinkley conducted background historical research at the South Carolina Historical Society and the Charleston County Register of Mesne Conveyances on August 25 and 26, 1994. A project area map was faxed to the S.C. Historic Preservation Office requesting information on National Register sites and previous architectural surveys. A verbal response from Dr. Tracy Powers indicated that there were no previously recorded architectural sites or National Register sites on the project tract.

It is important to emphasize that since this study incorporated only a reconnaissance level investigation of the Mullet Hall tract, no intensive investigations of either the historical or archaeological resources were undertaken. The preliminary historical survey only briefly explored the available sources. Field investigations at individual sites was limited and no comprehensive sub-surface investigations were undertaken. Nor were the cemeteries identified on the tract thoroughly recorded.

The field investigations were undertaken by Ms. Natalie Adams and Mr. Ryan Boera on September 5 through September 9, 1994. The laboratory processing of the resulting collections, curation preparations, and



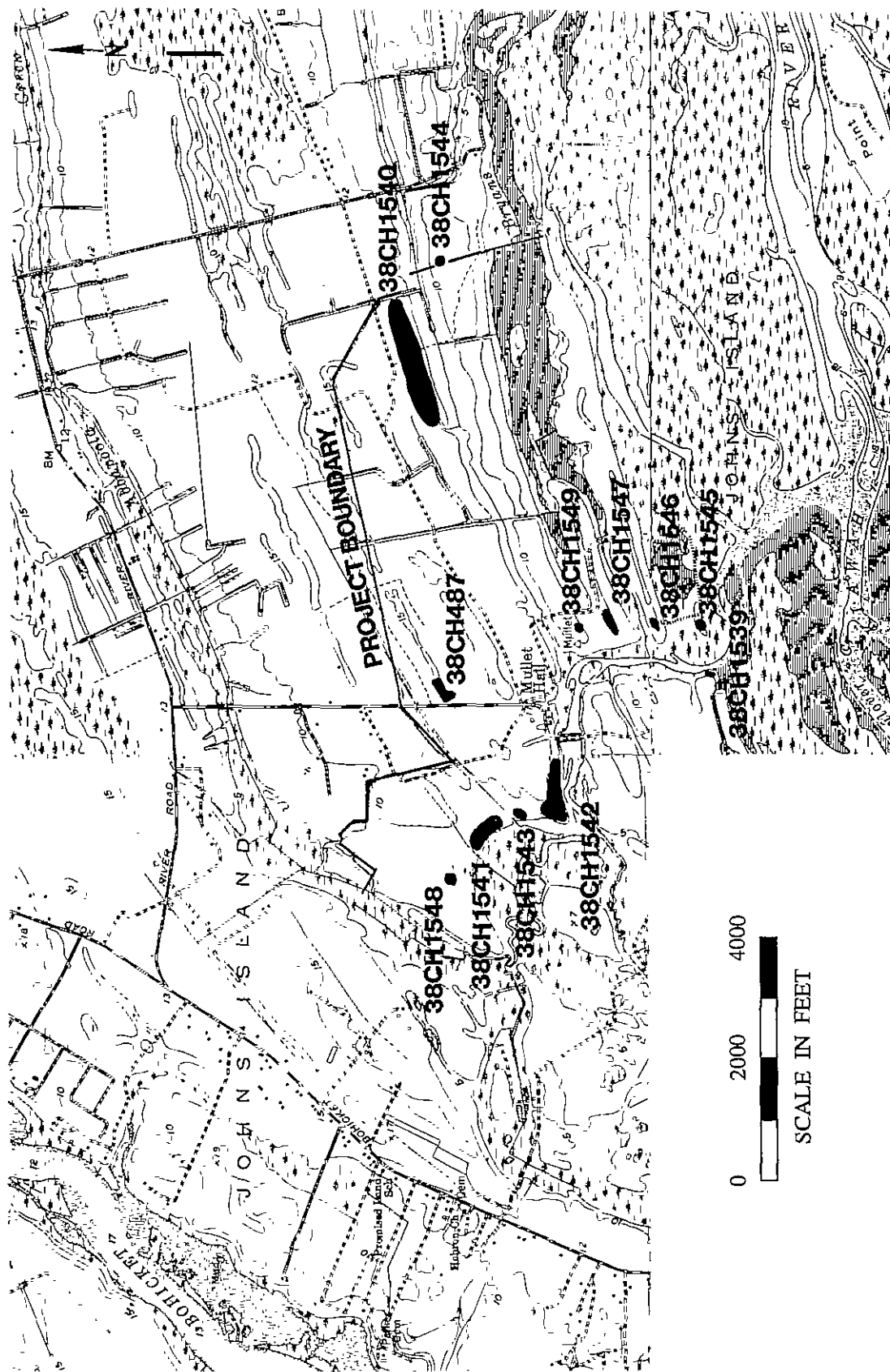


Figure 2. Location of the project area and archaeological sites (Kiawah, Legareville, Wadmalaw Island USGS topographic base maps).

report production have taken place at Chicora Foundation's laboratories in Columbia from September 12 through September 16, 1994.

The approximately 1020 acre Mullet Hall tract is situated on John's Island in Charleston County (Figure 1). It is bounded to the south by the marshes of the Kiawah River, to the east by a portion of Bryan's Creek and private property, and to the north and west by private property (Figure 2). Portions of the northern and eastern boundaries were previously part of Mullet Hall, and represent a tract of about 734 acres which was recently sold to the Charleston County Parks and Recreation Commission (Charleston County T.M.S. 212-0-0).

The property is roughly bisected into east and west halves by Mullet Hall Road (S-8-2146). Most of the well drained soils (approximately 400 acres) are in cultivated or fallow fields, providing excellent visibility in these areas. There is an extensive network of farm roads allowing good access to most of these well drained areas.

The study was also facilitated by the generosity of both Betty Stringfellow, a local historian who shared with us her collection of information on Mullet Hall, and W.L. Limehouse, who has farmed the tract for a number of years. Both provided significant information on land use, historic resources, and potential sources for additional information should KRA exercise its option and purchase the tract.

EFFECTIVE ENVIRONMENT

Physiology and Geology

Charleston County is situated in the central lower coastal plain of South Carolina and is bounded on the east by about 75 miles of irregular Atlantic Ocean shoreline and marsh, barrier, and sea islands. The mainland topography consists of subtle undulations in the landscape characteristic of ridge and bay topography of beach ridge plains. Elevations in the county range from sea level to about 70 feet mean sea level (MSL) (Mathews et al. 1980:133).

Seven major drainages are found in Charleston County. Four of these, the Wando, Ashley, Stono, and North Edisto, are dominated by tidal flows and are saline. The three with significant freshwater flow are the Santee, forming the northern boundary of the County, the South Edisto, forming the southern boundary, and the Cooper, which bisects the County. The distinctions between these rivers were of particular significance to the area planters since the fresh water rivers became areas of extensive tidal rice cultivation. Rice cultivation was tried on the more saline rivers, but with limited success. The Wando River rice planters, for example, found early in the nineteenth century that they could not compete with the more favorable resources of rice planters on the Santee or Edisto.

Because of the low topography, many broad, low-gradient interior drains are present as either extensions of the tidal rivers or as flooded bays and swales. These are often seen as small creeks or even as low, poorly drained interior areas. This feature is also known to have been of considerable importance to the area planters. While these low soils were frequently fertile, they had to be drained. Not only did this require constant attention, but it was realized to be unhealthy work.

The geology of the county is characteristic of the coastal plain, with unconsolidated, water-laid beds of sands and clays up to 20 feet in thickness overlying thick beds of soft marl (Miller 1971). The high ground of the Mullet Hall tract is characterized by five soil series: very poorly drained Capers silty clay loam; poorly to very poorly drained Dawhoo and Rutlege sands; somewhat poorly drained Kiawah loamy fine sand; moderately well drained Seabrook loamy fine sand; very poorly drained Stono sandy loam; and poorly drained Yonges loamy fine sand (Miller 1971:Maps 74, 75, 81, and 82). Of the approximately 1020 acres of highground, about 400 acres may be classified as well drained.

Coastal Plain geological formations are unconsolidated sedimentary deposits of very recent age (Pleistocene and Holocene) lying unconformably on ancient crystalline rocks (Cooke 1936; Miller 1971:74). The Pleistocene sediments are organized into topographically distinct, but lithologically similar, geomorphic units, or terraces, parallel to the coast.

The Recent terrace ranges from about sea level to six feet above and occurs along the coast and for a few miles up major streams. Soils are primarily Capers series and Tidal marsh lands. The Pamlico terrace ranges from six to 25 feet above sea level. This terrace includes most of Charleston County. The Talbot terrace ranges from 25 to 42 feet and occurs southeast of Ladson, in parts of the western portion of the county, and along the Berkeley County line from southwest of Wambaw Creek almost to the Wando River (Miller 1971:74).

Another significant aspect of coastal geology to be considered in these discussions is the fluctuation of sea level during the late Pleistocene and Holocene epochs. Prior to 15,000 B.C. there is evidence that a warming

trend resulted in the gradual increase in Pleistocene sea levels (DePratter and Howard 1980). Work by Brooks et al. (1989) clearly indicates that there were a number of fluctuations during the Holocene. Their data suggest that as the first Stallings phase sites along the South Carolina coast were occupied about 2100 B.C. the sea level was about 4.2 feet lower than present. Following that period there was a gradual fall in the sea level to about 11.0 feet below current levels by 1850 B.C. Sea levels gradually increased during the Thom's Creek phase to a level within about 2.0 feet of the current stands by 1650 B.C. Following this was a second lowering about 1250 B.C., to a level of 9.7 feet below that of today. The sea level increased through the late Thom's Creek phase to a high about 2.8 feet below modern levels by 1050 B.C. Another low, about 9.7 feet, occurred at 350 B.C. after which the sea levels tend to maintain a gradual rise to their modern levels. Quitmyer (1985) does not believe that the lower sea levels at 2100 B.C. would have greatly altered the estuarine environment, although drops of nearly 10 feet would have reduced available tidal resources and would have affected the overall drainage patterns and soil moisture of coastal sites.

Data from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries suggest that the level is continuing to rise. Kurtz and Wagner (1957:8) report a 0.8 foot rise in Charleston, South Carolina sea levels from 1833 to 1903. Between 1940 and 1950 a sea level rise of 0.34 foot was again recorded at Charleston. These data, however, do not distinguish between sea level rise and land surface submergence.

Within the coastal zone the soils are Holocene and Pleistocene in age and were formed from materials that were deposited during the various stages of coastal submergence. The formation of soils in the study area is affected by this parent material (primarily sands and clays), the temperate climate (to be discussed later in this section), the various soil organisms, topography, and time.

The mainland soils are Pleistocene in age and tend to have more distinct horizon development and diversity than the younger soils of the sea and barrier islands. Sandy to loamy soils predominate in the level to gently sloping mainland areas. The island soils are less diverse and less well developed, frequently lacking a well-defined B horizon. Organic matter is low and the soils tend to be acidic. The Holocene deposits typical of barrier islands and found as a fringe on some sea islands, consist almost entirely of quartz sand which exhibits little organic matter. Tidal marsh soils are Holocene in age and consist of fine sands, clay, and organic matter deposited over older Pleistocene sands. The soils are frequently covered by up to 2 feet of saltwater during high tides. Historically, marsh soils have been used as compost or fertilizer for a variety of crops, including cotton (Hammond 1884:510) and Allston mentions that the sandy soil of the coastal region, "bears well the admixture of salt and marsh mud with the compost" (Allston 1854:13).

The survey tract is characterized by elevations ranging from about 0 to 15 feet MSL, with the bulk of the property at or below 10 feet MSL. There is a gradual slope toward the marshes of Bryan's and Mullet Hall Creeks. The property is roughly bisected by Mullet Hall Road (S-8-2146) into east and west halves. A number of dirt farm roads provide access to most of the well drained areas of the tract (which are under cultivation).

Climate

John Lawson described South Carolina, in 1700, as having "a sweet Air, moderate Climate, and fertile Soil" (Lefler 1967:86). Of course, Lawson tended to romanticize Carolina. In December 1740 Robert Pringle remarked that Charleston was having "hard frosts & Snow" characterized as "a great Detriment to the Negroes" (Edgar 1972:282), while in May 1744 Pringle states, "the weather having already Come in very hott" (Edgar 1972:685).

The major climatic controls of the area are latitude, elevation, distance from the ocean, and location with respect to the average tracks of migratory cyclones. Charleston County's latitude of places it on the edge of the balmy subtropical climate typical of Florida, further south. As a result, there are relatively short, mild winters and long, warm, humid summers. The large amount of nearby warm ocean water surface produces a marine climate, which tends to moderate both the cold and hot weather. The Appalachian Mountains, about 220 miles to

the northwest, block the shallow cold air masses from the northwest, moderating them before they reach the sea islands (Mathews et al. 1980:46).

The average high temperature in the Charleston area in July is 89° F. Mills noted:

in the months of June, July, and August, 1752, the weather in Charleston was warmer than any of the inhabitants before had ever experienced. The mercury in the shade often rose above 90°, and for nearly twenty successive days varied between that and 101° (Mills 1972 [1826]:444).

Charleston normally experiences a high relative humidity, adding greatly to the discomfort. Pringle remarked in 1742 that guns "suffer'd with the Rust by Lying so Long here, & which affects any Kind of Iron Ware, much more in this Climate than in Europe" (Edgar 1972:465).

The annual rainfall in the Charleston area is 49 inches, fairly evenly spaced over the year. While adequate for most crops, there may be periods of both excessive rain and drought. Mills remarks that the "Summer of 1728 was uncommonly hot; the face of the earth was completely parched; the pools of standing water dried up, and the field reduced to the greatest distress" (Mills 1972 [1826]:447-448). Another significant historical drought occurred in 1845, affecting both the Low and Up Country.

The annual growing season for Charleston County is 295 days, one of the longest in South Carolina. Along the "sea shore" the close proximity to the water extended this growing season allowing parts of Christ Church to rival the Florida growing season. This mild climate, adequate rainfall, and long growing season was particularly useful during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries when the area emphasized truck cropping.

Hilliard (1984) points out that "any description of climate in the South, however brief, would be incomplete without reference" to a meteorological event frequently identified with the region – the tropical hurricane. Hurricanes occur in the late summer and early fall, the period critical to antebellum cane, cotton, and rice growers. These storms, however, are capricious in occurrence:

in such a case between the dread of pestilence in the city, of common fever in the country, and of an unexpected hurricane on the island, the inhabitants . . . are at the close of every warm season in a painful state of anxiety, not knowing what course to pursue, not what is best to be done (Ramsay, quoted in Calhoun 1983:2).

The coastal area is a moderately high risk zone for tropical storms, with 169 hurricanes being documented from 1686 to 1972 (0.50 per year) (Mathews et al. 1980:56).

The climate of the Charleston area, regardless of storms, temperature, humidity, or rainfall, was often viewed as harsh and unhealthful, especially for the white population. Mills states:

the numerous swamps, bays, and low grounds which indent the low country, retain the waters that fall in rains; and in consequence of these, occasion thick fogs throughout the night, during the summer months. Under such circumstances it is a matter of little surprise that fevers prevail. . . . The two fevers most dreaded here, are, what are commonly termed the country and yellow fever. The first is peculiar to the country, and to avoid it, the planters are in the habit either of residing in Charleston during the sickly season, or retiring to the Sea Islands or Sand hills. The second belongs exclusively to the city, and is generally fatal to strangers only, who have not, as it is termed, become climatized (Mills 1972 [1826]:140-144).

Expounding on the evil of the swamps, Mills also explained:

that to the extensive swamps and stagnant pools, which cover its surface, are we to attribute the cause of our epidemical diseases. The rank luxuriance of vegetation on these waste lands, their perpetual moisture, and the operation of a powerful sun, produce at certain seasons of the year, in a degree indeed extensive, the rapid decomposition of this vegetable matter: the miasma arising from this decomposition contaminates the surrounding air, which afterwards is wafted by the winds over the country, and poisons, more or less, the whole atmosphere (Mills 1972 [1826]:462).

Floristics

The Charleston County area contains three major ecosystems: the maritime forest ecosystem which consists of the upland forest areas, the estuarine ecosystem of deep water tidal habitats, and the palustrine ecosystems which consist of essentially fresh water, non-tidal wetlands (Sandifer et al. 1980:7-9).

The maritime forest ecosystem has been found to consist of five principal forest types, including the Oak-Pine forests, the Mixed Oak Hardwood forests, the Palmetto forests, the Oak thickets, and other miscellaneous wooded areas (such as salt marsh thickets and wax myrtle thickets).

In some areas of Oak-Pine forests palmetto becomes an important sub-dominant. Typically these forests are dominated by the laurel oak with pine (primarily loblolly with minor amounts of longleaf pine) as the major canopy co-dominant. Hickory is present, although uncommon. Other trees found are the sweet gum and magnolia, with sassafras, red bay, American holly, and wax myrtle found in the understory.

In the Mixed Oak Hardwood forests pine is reduced in importance and the laurel oak is replaced by the live oak. Yaupon holly and red bay or magnolia are found in the understory. The Palmetto forests are characterized by open palmetto stands with an understory of wax myrtle, red cedar, yaupon holly, and magnolia. The miscellaneous wooded areas include wax myrtle thickets found in low areas behind the dune fields.

Mills, in the early nineteenth century, remarked that:

South Carolina is rich in native and exotic productions; the varieties of its soil, climate, and geological positions, afford plants of rare, valuable, and medicinal qualities; fruits of a luscious, refreshing, and nourishing nature; vines and shrubs of exquisite beauty, fragrance, and luxuriance, and forest trees of noble growth, in great variety (Mills 1972 [1826]:66).

The loblolly pine was called the "pitch or Frankincense Pine" and was used to produce tar and turpentine; the longleaf pine was "much used in building and for all other domestic purposes;" trees such as the red bay and red cedar were often used in furniture making and cedar was a favorite for posts; and live oaks were recognized as yielding "the best of timber for ship building;" (Mills 1972 [1826]:66-85). Mills also observed that:

in former years cypress was much used in building, but the difficulty of obtaining it now, compared with the pine, occasions little of it to be cut for sale, except in the shape of shingles; the cypress is a most valuable wood for durability and lightness. Besides the two names we have cedar, poplar, beech, oak, and locust, which are or may be also used in building (Mills 1972 [1826]:460).

The "Oak and hickory high lands" according to Mills were, "well suited for corn and provisions, also for indigo and cotton" (Mills 1972 [1826]:443). The value of these lands in the mid-1820s was from \$10 to \$20 per acre, less expensive than the tidal swamp or inland swamp lands (where rice and, with drainage, cotton could be grown).

The estuarine ecosystem in the vicinity includes those areas of deep-water tidal habitats and adjacent

tidal wetlands. Salinity may range from 0.5 ppt at the head of an estuary to 30 ppt where it comes in contact with the ocean. Estuarine systems are influenced by ocean tides, precipitation, fresh water runoff from the upland areas, evaporation, and wind. Estuarine systems are extremely important to our understanding of both prehistoric and historic occupations because they naturally contain a high biomass (Thompson 1972:9). The estuarine area contributes vascular flora used for basket making, as well as mammals, birds, fish (over 107 species), and shellfish.

While shellfish are only briefly itemized by Mills in the context of a food source, he elaborates in his discussion of building material, observing that:

lime is obtained from burning oyster shells. It makes a very good mortar, where good sharp sand is used, though it is not equal to the stone lime (Mills 1972 [1826]:460).

While the primary historic use of shellfish may have been for the production of lime, the large numbers of shell middens in coastal area clearly indicate the importance of shellfish in the aboriginal diet (see Trinkley 1991:214-215).

The last environment to be briefly discussed is the freshwater palustrine ecosystem, which includes all wetland ecosystems, such as the swamps, bays, savannas, poicisins, and creeks, where the salinities measure less than 0.5 ppt. These palustrine ecosystems tend to be diverse, although not well studied (Sandifer et al. 1980:295).

A number of forest types may be found in the palustrine areas which would attract a variety of terrestrial mammals. The typical vegetation might consist of red maple, swamp tupelo, sweet gum, red bay, cypress, and various hollies. Also found would be wading birds and reptiles. It seems likely that these freshwater environs were of particular importance to the prehistoric occupants.

PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC SYNOPSIS

Previous Research

The only previous research performed on the Mullet Hall tract was in 1980 by Stanley South and Michael Hartley (South and Hartley 1980) during their search for seventeenth century plantation sites as a part of their seventeenth century settlement pattern study. They believed that the Mullet Hall tract contained Grice's Plantation which appears on the 1695 Thornton-Morden Map (Figure 3). One site (38CH487) was recorded during their investigations just east of Mullet Hall Road in which they found no evidence of seventeenth century occupation, but found instead mid- to late-nineteenth century remains. They also visited another area shown to them by the landowner, Mr. W.L. Limehouse. This area (Area A of 38CH487) contained the ruins of a house. In spite of its general topographic agreement with the Thornton-Morden map, South and Hartley did not believe that this site was Grice's Plantation.

Both of these sites were revisited during the current investigations. What had been previously identified as Area A of 38CH487 was, during this survey, recorded as a separate site (38CH1540) in order to make assessments and future archaeological research more convenient. This decision to separate the sites was made in consultation with Mr. Keith Derting, site files manager at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology.

Based on other Charleston County research (see, for example, Brooks and Scurry 1978, Scurry and Brooks 1980, and Trinkley 1993), few sites are found in the interior, away from marsh or freshwater habitats. Most sites, based on these previous studies, are found on excessively to well drained soils, although a few are consistently found in areas which are poorly drained (which suggests that factors other than drainage may occasionally have determined prehistoric settlement locations). Research in the Low Country also suggests that sites will most commonly be found on major sand ridge elevations overlooking the wetland habitats.

Work by South and Hartley (1980) suggests that major historic site complexes, at least during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, will be found on high ground adjacent to a deep water access. Plantation main houses tend to be located on the highest and best drained soils, while slave settlements may be found in intermediate or even poorly drained areas. Both settlement types, however, tend to be in close proximity to the rice fields or other agricultural work areas. Extractive or milling sites will be located near necessary raw materials and where the products can be easily transported in and out. Healthful conditions and drainage are not usually significant considerations, at least for slave settlements. Later in the nineteenth century, as holdings became smaller, settlements often were placed in less than "ideal" locations. Even on nearby Kiawah Island, the two (and later three) plantations shared one central landing, recognizing that it was impossible for all three to be situated on "high ground" and "deep water." Later, especially in the late nineteenth century, tenant farm sites tend to be more closely associated with the improving road systems, gradually being dispersed over the plantation landscape.

Based on these previous studies and the presented data on the soils and drainage typical of the survey area, the Mullet Hall tract tends to have a high probability of prehistoric and historic archaeological remains. Prehistoric sites may be reasonably expected on the high sandy ridges overlooking the lower soils and marsh areas, although experience on nearby Kiawah and James islands also reveals prehistoric sites in the swales typical of dune ridge topography. Early historic sites may be expected at deep water access points, as well as on the higher ground areas nearby. Tenant sites are likely associated with the major road systems still present on the plantation.



Figure 3. The 1695 Thornton-Morden map showing the vicinity of Mr. Grice's plantation.

Prehistoric Synopsis

Paleoindian and Archaic Periods

The Paleoindian period, lasting from 12,000 to 8,000 B.C., is evidenced by basally thinned, side-notched projectile points; fluted, lanceolate projectile points; side scrapers; end scrapers; and drill (Coe 1964; Michie 1977; Williams 1968; Goodyear et al. 1989). The Paleoindian occupation, while widespread, does not appear to have been intensive. Artifacts are most frequently found along major river drainages, which Michie interprets to support the concept of an economy "oriented towards the exploitation of now extinct mega-fauna" (Michie 1977:124). No Paleoindian projectile points, however, have been recovered from the Charleston County area (Michie 1977).

The Archaic period, which dates from 8000 to 2000 B.C., does not form a sharp break with the Paleoindian period, but is a slow transition characterized by a modern climate and an increase in the diversity of material culture. The chronology established by Coe (1964) for the North Carolina Piedmont may be applied with little modification to the South Carolina coast. Archaic period assemblages are rare in the Sea Island region, although the sea level is anticipated to have been within 13 feet of its present stand by the beginning of the succeeding Woodland period (Lepionka et al. 1983:10). Brooks and Scurry note that:

Archaic period sites, when contrasted with the subsequent Woodland period, are typically small, relatively few in number and contain low densities of archaeological material. The data may indicate that the inter-riverine zone was utilized by Archaic populations characterized by small group size, high mobility, and wide ranging exploitative patterns (Brooks and Scurry 1978:44).

Alternatively, the general sparsity of Archaic sites in the coastal zone may be the result of a more attractive environment inland adjacent to the floodplain swamps of major drainages. Of course, this is not necessarily an alternative explanation, since coastal Archaic sites may represent only a small segment in the total settlement system.

Early Woodland

The earliest phase of the Woodland period (Figure 4) is called Stallings, after the type site excavated by the Cosgroves in 1929 (Claflin 1931). These "Stallings Island people" produced a rich cultural assemblage of bone and antler work, polished stone items, grooved and perforated "net sinkers" or steatite disks, stone tools (including projectile points, knives, scrapers, and cruciform drills), and fiber tempered pottery (see also Williams 1968). It was over a decade before the typological significance of the Stallings ware was recognized and a formal type description was offered (Fairbanks 1942; Griffin 1943). The definitive feature of this pottery is its large quantity of fiber, now identified as Spanish Moss (Simpkins and Scoville 1981), included in the paste prior to firing.

The following Thom's Creek phase dates as early as 2220±350 B.C. (UGA-584) from Spanish Mount in Charleston County (Sutherland 1974) and continues to at least 935±175 B.C. (UGA-2901), based on a date from the Lighthouse Point Shell Ring, also in Charleston County (Trinkley 1980c:191-192). The Thom's Creek phase is characterized by an artifact assemblage almost identical to that of Stallings sites. The only major differences include the replacement of fiber tempering with sand, or a clay not requiring tempering, and the gradual reduction of projectile point size.

Thom's Creek pottery, first typed by Griffin (1945), consists of sandy paste pottery decorated with the motifs common to the Stallings series, including punctations (reed and shell), finger pinching, simple stamping, incising, and very late in the phase, finger smoothed (Trinkley 1980a). Investigations at the Lighthouse Point and Stratton Place shell rings, stratigraphic studies at Spanish Mount and Fig Island, radiocarbon dates from

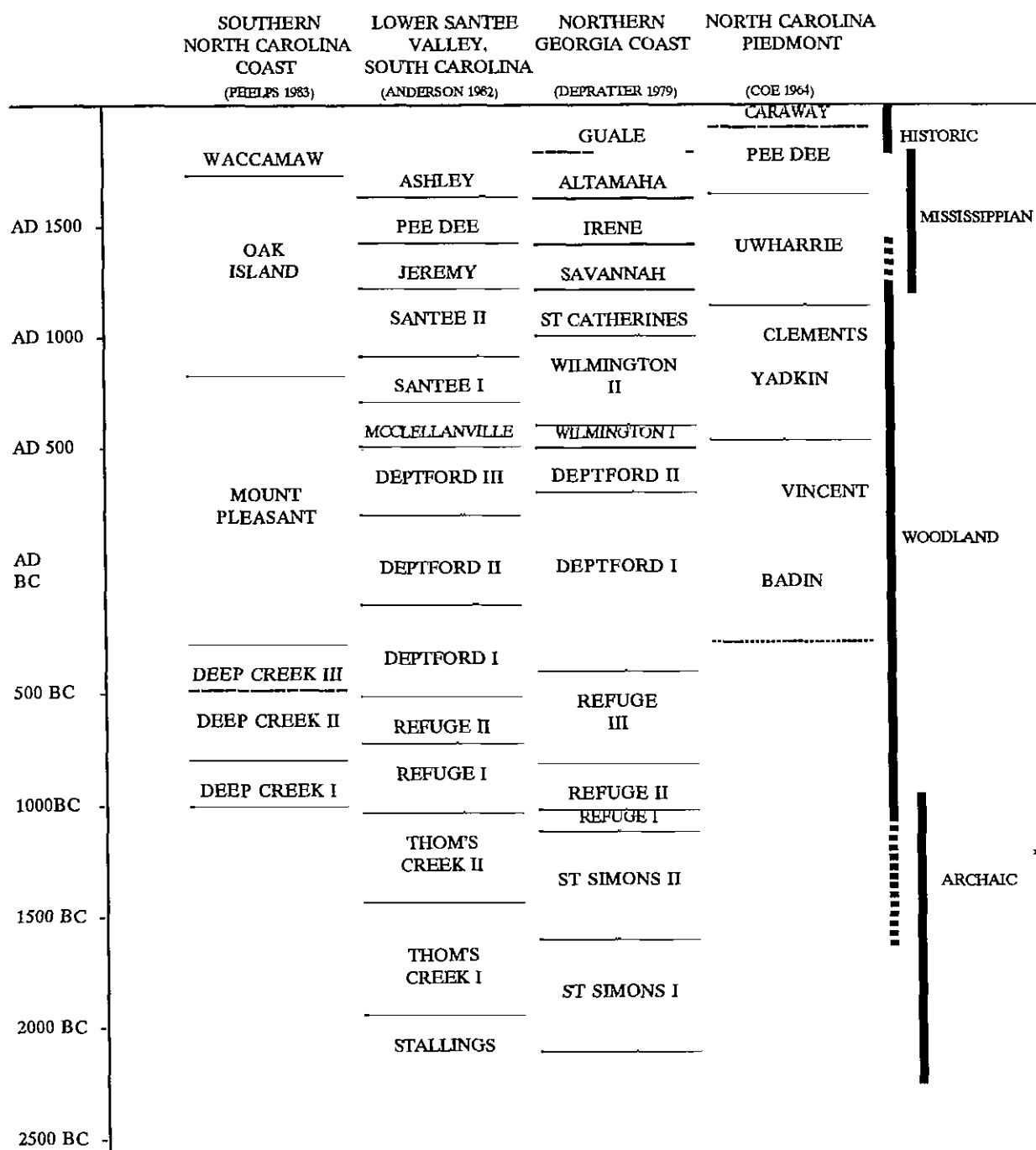


Figure 4. Woodland Period phases in the South Carolina locality.

Lighthouse Point and Venning Creek, and the study of surface collections from a number of sites, have suggested a temporal ordering of the Thom's Creek series. Reed punctated pottery appears to be the oldest, followed by the shell punctated and finger pinched motifs. Late in the Thom's Creek phase, perhaps by 1000 B.C., there is the addition of Thom's Creek Finger Smoothed (Trinkley 1983a:44). Vessel forms include deep, straight sided jars and shallow conoidal bowls. Lip treatments are simple, and coiling fractures are common. Firing of the Thom's Creek vessels is certainly better than that evidenced for Stallings, but there continues to be abundant incompletely oxidized specimens.

By far the most work has been conducted at Thom's Creek phase shell rings (see Trinkley 1980b, 1985). These sites are circular middens about 130 to 300 feet in diameter, 2 to 6 feet in height, and 40 feet in width at their bases, with clear interiors. These doughnut-shaped accumulations were formed as small mounds, arranged around an open ground area, and gradually blended together. The ring itself is composed of varying proportions of shell, animal bone, pottery, soil, and other artifacts. These shell rings were apparently mundane occupation sites for fairly large social units which lived on the ring, disposed of garbage underfoot, and used the clear interiors as areas for communal activities. The sites further suggest relatively permanent, stable village life as early as 1600 B.C., with a subsistence base oriented toward large and small mammals, fish, shellfish, and hickory nut resources (Trinkley 1985).

Following Stallings and Thom's Creek are the Refuge and Deptford phases, both strongly associated with the Georgia sequence and the Savannah drainage (DePratter 1979; Lepionka et al. 1983; Williams 1968). The Refuge Phase, dated from 1070±115 B.C. (QC-784) to 510±100 B.C. (QC-785), is found primarily along the South Carolina coast from the Savannah drainage as far north as the Santee River (Williams 1968:208). Anderson (1975:184) further notes an apparent concentration of Refuge sites in the Coastal Plain, particularly along the Santee River.

The Refuge series pottery is similar in many ways to the preceding Thom's Creek wares. The paste is compact and sandy or gritty, while surface treatments include sloppy simple stamped, dentate stamped, and random punctate decorations (see DePratter 1979:115-123; Williams 1968:198-208). Anderson et al. note that these typologies are "marred by a lack of reference to the Thom's Creek series" (Anderson et al. 1982:265) and that the Refuge Punctate and Incised types are indistinguishable from Thom's Creek wares. Peterson (1971:153) characterizes Refuge as both a degeneration of the preceding Thom's Creek series and also as a bridge to the succeeding Deptford series.

The Deptford culture takes its name from the type site located east of Savannah, Georgia, which was excavated in the mid-1930s (Caldwell 1943:12-16). Deptford phase sites are best recognized by the presence of fine to course sandy paste pottery with a check stamped surface treatment. This pottery is typically in the form of a cylindrical vessel with a conoidal base. The flat bottomed bowl with tetrapodal supports found at Deptford sites along the Florida Gulf coast (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980:79) is very rare in South Carolina. Other Deptford phase pottery styles include cord marking, simple stamping, a complicated stamping which resembles early Swift Creek, and a geometric stamping which consists of a series of carved triangles or diamonds with interior dots (see Anderson et al. 1982:277-293; DePratter 1979).

The Deptford technology is little better known than that of the preceding Refuge phase. Shell tools are uncommon, bone tools are "extremely rare" (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980:77), and stone tools are rare on Coastal Zone sites. All of this indicates to some researchers that "wood must have been worked into a variety of tool types" (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980:75). One type of stone tool associated with South Carolina Deptford sites is a very small, stemmed projectile point tentatively described as "Deptford Stemmed" (Trinkley 1980c:20-23). This point is the culmination of the Savannah River Stemmed reduction seen in the Thom's Creek and Refuge phases. Also found at Deptford sites are "medium-sized triangular points," probably similar to the Yadkin Triangular point (Coe 1964:45, 47, 49; Milanich and Fairbanks 1980:75-76).

Throughout much of the Coastal Zone and Coastal Plain north of Charleston, a somewhat different

cultural manifestation is observed, related to the "Northern Tradition" (e.g., Caldwell 1958). This recently identified assemblage has been termed Deep Creek and was first identified from northern North Carolina sites (Phelps 1983). The Deep Creek assemblage is characterized by pottery with medium to coarse sand inclusions and surface treatments of cord marking, fabric impressing, simple stamping, and net impressing (see Trinkley 1987). Much of this material has been previously designated as the Middle Woodland "Cape Fear" pottery originally typed by South (1960). The Deep Creek wares date from about 1000 B.C. to A.D. 1 in North Carolina, but may date later in South Carolina, based on two radiocarbon dates of 120 ± 130 B.C. (QC-1358) and A.D. 210 ± 110 (QC-1357). The Deep Creek settlement and subsistence systems are poorly known, but appear to be very similar to those identified with the Deptford phase.

Middle Woodland

Although the Deptford phase is discussed as part of the Early Woodland, many authors place the phase intermediate between the Early and Middle Woodland (see, for example, Anderson et al. 1982:28, 250). Such an approach is not unreasonable, because Deptford exhibits considerable temporal range and cultural adaptations which are more characteristically Middle Woodland (see also Anderson 1985:53). The Deptford phase, however, is still part of the early carved paddle stamped tradition which is replaced by the posited northern intrusion of wrapped paddle stamping during the Middle Woodland. Clearly the Deep Creek pottery, at the same time period as Deptford, is part of this "Northern Tradition," yet the Deep Creek, on temporal grounds, is considered Early Woodland by Phelps (1983:17, 29). This is meant simply to indicate that the transition from Early to Middle Woodland is not as clear as one might wish.

The Middle Woodland in South Carolina is characterized by a pattern of settlement mobility and short-term occupation. On the southern coast it is associated with the Wilmington phase, while on the northern coast it is recognized by the presence of Hanover, McClellanville or Santee, and Mount Pleasant assemblages. Wilmington and Hanover may be viewed as regional varieties of the same ceramic tradition. The pottery is characterized almost solely by its crushed sherd (perhaps with grog as well) temper which makes up 30 to 40% of the paste and which ranges in size from 3 to 10 mm. Wilmington was first described by Caldwell and Waring (Williams 1968:113-116) from coastal Georgia work, while the Hanover description was offered by South (1960), based on a survey of the Southeastern coast of North Carolina (with incursions into South Carolina). The Wilmington phase was seen by Waring (Williams 1968:221) as intrusive from the Carolina coast, but there is considerable evidence for the inclusion of Deptford traits in the Wilmington series. For example, Caldwell and McCann (1940:n.p.) noted that, "the Wilmington complex proper contains all of the main kinds of decoration which occur in the Deptford complex with the probable exception of Deptford Linear Checkstamped" (see also Anderson et al. 1982:275). Consequently, surface treatments of cord marking, check stamping, simple stamping, and fabric impressing may be found with sherd tempered paste.

Sherd tempered Wilmington and Hanover wares are found from at least the Chowan River in North Carolina southward onto the Georgia coast. Anderson (1975:187) has found the Hanover series evenly distributed over the Coastal Plain of South Carolina, although it appears slightly more abundant north of the Edisto River. The heartland may be along the inner Coastal Plain north of the Cape Fear River in North Carolina. Radiocarbon dates for Wilmington and Hanover range from 135 ± 85 B.C. (UM-1916) from site 38BK134 to A.D. 1120 ± 100 (GX-2284) from a "Wilmington House" at the Charles Towne Landing site, 38CH1. Most dates, however, cluster from A.D. 400 to 900; some researchers prefer a date range of about 200 B.C. to A.D. 500 (Anderson et al. 1982:276).

Largely contemporaneous with the sherd tempered wares are what have been termed the Mount Pleasant, McClellanville, and Santee series. The Mount Pleasant series has been developed by Phelps from work along the northeastern North Carolina coast (Phelps 1983:32-35, 1984:41-44) and is a Middle Woodland refinement of South's (1960) previous Cape Fear series. The pottery is characterized by a sandy paste either with or without quantities of rounded pebbles. Surface treatments include fabric impressed, cord marked, and net impressed. Vessels are usually conoidal, although simple, hemispherical, and globular bowls are also present. The

Mount Pleasant series is found from North Carolina southward to the Savannah River (being evidenced by the "Untyped Series" in Trinkley 1981c). North Carolina dates for the series range from A.D. 265±65 (UGA-1088) to A.D. 890±80 (UGA-3849). The several dates currently available from South Carolina (such as UGA-3512 of A.D. 565±70 from Pinckney Island) fall into this range of about A.D. 200 to 900.

The McClellanville (Trinkley 1981a) and Santee (Anderson et al. 1982:302-308) series are found primarily on the north central coast of South Carolina and are characterized by a fine to medium sandy paste ceramic with surface treatment of primarily v-shaped simple stamping. While the two pottery types are quite similar, it appears that the Santee series may have later features, such as excruciate rims and interior rim stamping, not so far observed in the McClellanville series. The Santee series is placed at A.D. 800 to 1300 by Anderson et al. (1982:303), while the McClellanville ware may be slightly earlier, perhaps A.D. 500 to 800. Anderson et al. (1982:302-304; see also Anderson 1985) provide a detailed discussion of the Santee Series and its possible relationships with the McClellanville Series. Anderson, based on the Santee area data from Mattassee Lake, indicates that there is evidence for the replacement of fabric impressed pottery by simple stamping about A.D. 800 (David G. Anderson, personal communication 1990). This may suggest that McClellanville and Santee wares are closely related, both typologically and culturally. Also probably related is the little known Camden Series (Stuart 1975) found in the inner Coastal Plain of South Carolina.

Late Woodland and South Appalachian Mississippian

In many respects the South Carolina Late Woodland may be characterized as a continuation of previous Middle Woodland cultural assemblages. While outside the Carolinas there were major cultural changes, such as the continued development and elaboration of agriculture, the Carolina groups settled into a lifeway not appreciably different from that observed for the previous 500 to 700 years (cf. Sassaman et al. 1989:14-15). This situation would remain unchanged until the development of the South Appalachian Mississippian complex (see Ferguson 1971).

Along the central and northern South Carolina coast, Anderson et al. (1982:303-304) suggest a continuation of the Santee series into the Late Woodland. The Hanover and Mount Pleasant series may also be found as late of A.D. 1000. Along the southeastern North Carolina coast, South (1960) has defined the Oak Island complex, which is best known for its shell tempered ceramics with cord marked, fabric impressed, simple stamped, and net impressed surface finishes. The phase is briefly discussed by Phelps (1983:48-49), but curiously this manifestation is almost unknown south of the Little River in South Carolina. Very little is known about the northern coastal South Carolina Late Woodland complexes, although sites such as 38GE32 may document the occurrence of village life in the Late Woodland.

The South Appalachian Mississippian is typically characterized by the construction of truncated temple mounds, reliance on cultivated crops, the development of a social elite, and complicated stamped pottery. The best information for the coastal area comes from the only incompletely reported excavations at the Charles Town Landing site (South 1971). In addition, Anderson (1989) provides an excellent synthesis of Mississippian research in South Carolina, observing that "while we have a fair appreciation for the culmination of the Mississippian in South Carolina, its origins and immediate Woodland antecedents remains largely unknown at the present" (Anderson 1989:114).

Anderson also notes the need for additional research in the area of

relationships between Woodland and Mississippian occupations in South Carolina, particularly the mechanisms bringing about the transition between the seemingly markedly dissimilar forms of social organization and subsistence adaptation (Anderson 1989:113).

While Trinkley (1981b, 1983a, 1983b) has offered a cultural sequence for the Mississippian remains in the coastal area that encompasses the Jeremy, "classic" Pee Dee, "post-classic" Pee Dee, Wachesaw, and Kimbel

series, Anderson (1982:312-319) offers an alternative perspective incorporating Pee Dee and Ashley wares.

Protohistoric

The history of the numerous small coastal Indian tribes is poorly known. As Mooney noted, the coastal tribes:

were of but small importance politically; no sustained mission work was ever attempted among them, and there were but few literary men to take an interest in them. War, pestilence, whiskey and systematic slave hunts had nearly exterminated the aboriginal occupants of the Carolinas before any body had thought them of sufficient importance to ask who they were, how they lived, or what were their beliefs and opinions (Mooney 1894:6).

In truth, our knowledge of these groups has also been limited because too few scholars have taken an active interest in the primary sources and there has been too little desire to evaluate critically the early research by Mooney (1894) and Swanton (1952). For South Carolina Anderson (1989:117-118) briefly notes the current status of ethnohistoric research.

The groups commonly associated with the Charleston County coast, such as the Wando and Sewee, are traditionally thought to be Muskogean speakers, although little else is known about them (see Waddell 1980). The Sewee have recently been examined in some detail by Trinkley and Wilson (1988) who found that the traditional scenarios may be inadequate to explain the protohistoric settlement along the Carolina coast.

Brief History of the Mullet Hall Tract

The study tract, encompassing approximately 1020 acres of high ground, is recorded in the Charleston County Tax Assessors Office on Tax Map 212-0-0 as Tract 1, part of Mullet Hall. The owner of record is Julian S. Limehouse, Jr. and the total acreage (prior to the recent acquisition of a portion of the property by Charleston County) is 2945.17 acres (approximately 1955.47 acres of which are high ground).

The bulk of the property (1685 acres) was acquired by Limehouse in 1942 from Dill-Ball Company for \$12,000 (Charleston County RMC, DB L-43, p. 197). The deed indicates that the tract, which included both Mullet Hall and The Oaks, is shown on a December 1924 plat entitled, "Map Showing Holdings of Dill-Ball Co., formerly of F.Y. and Kate S. Legare, situated: John's Island, Charleston County, South Carolina." This plat was not immediately identified in the holdings of either the McCrady Plats or the plats indexed at the Charleston County RMC.

The property was conveyed by the Master in Equity, F.K. Myers, to Dill-Ball in July 1923 as a result of court action initiated by the company (Charleston County RMC, DB P-31, p. 572). While the Charleston County Court of Common Pleas records were not examined during this study, it is likely that the action was to force payment of debts incurred by Francis Y. Legare and Kate S. Legare. A local informant indicated that the Dill-Ball Company had a reputation for foreclosing and suing farmers not able to repay loans (Ms. Betty Stringfellow, personal communication 1994).

The Master's deed indicates that Legare had pieced together Mullet Hall from a series of at least eight different tracts totaling about 1496 acres. Several come indirectly from William M. Bruns, who had purchased significant portions of the Solomon Legare estate. In 1878 Bruns purchased "Mullet Hall", also called the "Home Place" totalling 1130 acres (Charleston County RMC, DB L-17, p. 221). The deed indicates that the plantation was bounded to the north by lands of the estate of Fripp and Jenkins, to the east by lands owned by Roper, to the south by the Kiawah River, and to the west by lands owned by F.Y. Legare.

Solomon Legare, in turn, had acquired the property from a series of conveyances dating back to at least

the second quarter of the nineteenth century. In 1839 Legare acquired 238 acres from Susan Witter, formerly the estate of her late father, James Witter (Charleston County RMC, DB V-1-, p. 607). At the same time Witter bound her executors to sell Legare the 100 acres she retained for herself upon her death (Charleston County RMC, DB V-10, p. 606; see also Charleston RMC, DB E-11, p. 418). An additional 600 acres, called the "Home Plantation", were acquired from James W. Gray, Master of Equity, in 1843 (Charleston County RMC, DB I-12, p. 139). This represents the 600 acres plantation willed to Eliza S.W. Legare, the wife of Solomon Legare by her father, James Legare (d. 1830) (Charleston County Will Book, Volume 38). The remaining 700 acres of his plantation were passed to James C.W. Legare at the same time.

The Legare family is large, presenting a complex web of poorly researched individuals. Initial efforts to unravel the genealogy suggests that Solomon Legare was the son of Thomas Legare (1766-1842) and Ann Eliza Berwick. Solomon married his cousin, Eliza Legare, the daughter of James Legare (d. 1830) and Mary Wilkinson. Another child of James of Mary included James C.W. Legare (who married Lydia Ball). One of their children was F.Y. Legare (1850-1905).

Regrettably, no plats have been found specifically for the Legare property, although a 1789 plat, revised in 1878 (Charleston County RMC, DB U-9, p. 405) illustrates the property of Jonathan Holmes in relationship to these of Mullet Hall. This is Hope Plantation and a major settlement shown on the plat is now under the golf course at the recent Hope Plantation development. On the east boundary is the notation of "Land belonging to Miss Mary Witter, part of the Estate of James Witter deceased". An undated, and poorly preserved plat, also illustrates the 230 acre Jack Island property of James Witter, which apparently was acquired as early as 1763 (Ms. Betty Stringfellow, personal communication 1994).

During the intervening period relatively few accurate maps were produced and many fail to show any settlements in the project area. For example, the 1825 Charleston District map prepared for Mills' Atlas (Figure 5) shows no plantations in the study tract – although we are almost certain that at least some plantation development existed by this time. It is, of course, important to remember that Mills' Atlas was a subscription map and typically only subscribers are shown on the various maps.

Perhaps more useful, at least during this early stage of investigation, is the 1863 tracing of the 1854 Coastal Survey map "Kiawah River and Island and Portions of Folly, Cole's John's and Seabrook's Islands" which covers the project area (Figure 6). The map reveals that at least three plantation settlements are present on what is today called Mullet Hall. From west to east, the first includes a main, fenced settlement with 10 structures; a slave row with eight structures; and a probable second slave settlement, almost arc shaped with seven structures. The second plantation includes a main settlement with eight structures and, to the north, a slave settlement with an additional eight structures. The eastern most plantation includes a somewhat dispersed main settlement with two clusters each having four structures and a slave row to the east with seven structures.

An 1863 map which appeared in *Harper's Weekly*, "Map of Charleston, S.C. Showing the Approaches", illustrates the plantation settlement of Jenkins, but fails to illustrate any of the Legare holdings to the east (Figure 7).

A 1929 map entitled, "Charleston County, S.C. with portions of Adjacent Counties", produced by the Sanitary and Drainage Commission (Figure 8) reveals that portions of these plantation settlements were extant into the early twentieth century. This suggests that agricultural activities may not have caused extensive damage to the various archaeological components. A local historian, J.T. Killock, compiled a property map of Charleston County for the early 1930s (Figure 9). It shows the study tract encompassing what was then recognized as portions of Mullet Hall, Jack Island, and the Roper tract – confirming our finding that the property has a complex history divided among a number of different owners through time.

The 1942 General Highway and Transportation Map for Charleston County (Figure 10) reveals the

presence of a "camp" or "lodge" at the end of Mullet Hall Road, while the road itself was typically lined with both vacant (□) and occupied (■) "farm units", typically meaning tenant farms.

Future research, perhaps combined with an intensive field investigation, should concentrate on several issues:

- Identification of referenced plats, including the Dill-Ball plat. The Dill-Ball records held by The Charleston Museum have not been explored, nor have the collections at the South Carolina Historical Society. It is also possible that property plats may be present at the Charleston RMC, but simply overlooked through odd indexing practices. The Combined Alphabetical Index at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History should be explored for additional sources of information. These activities will likely require up to four days.
- Completion of the title search should be a high priority, although this activity alone is likely to require at least a week of intensive effort. The chain is very convoluted and this complexity will mean that each individual parcel will need its own title chain. The effort, requiring up to a week, should be rewarded with information on the original grant or grants for the Mullet Hall vicinity.
- Some information, particularly relevant to the late nineteenth and early twentieth century operation of Mullet Hall may be forthcoming from examination of the court records associated the property. If the records are immediately accessible one day of research should be adequate.
- Based on the findings of the chain of title, it will likely be appropriate to conduct additional research using the population, slave, and agricultural schedules and census records. This work will require an additional two days of historical research.

In sum, it is likely that the historical research adequate for an intensive archaeological survey will require approximately three weeks of investigation.

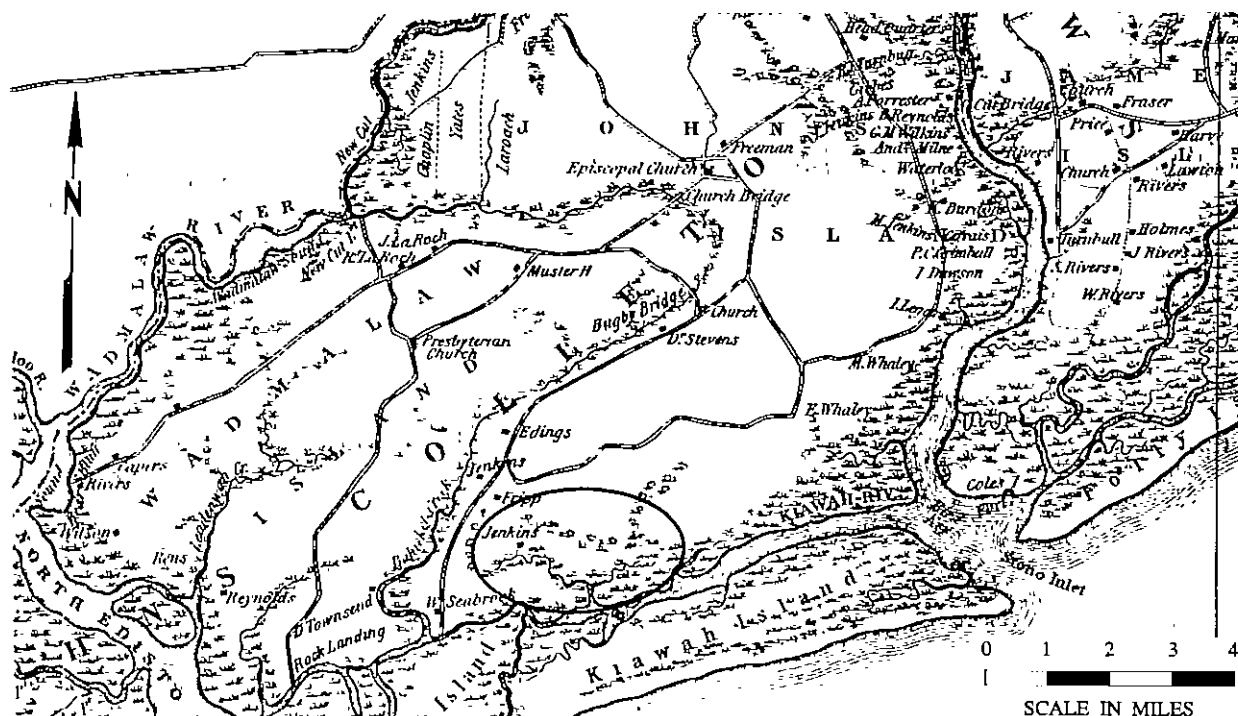


Figure 5. Mills' Atlas of 1825 showing the project area.

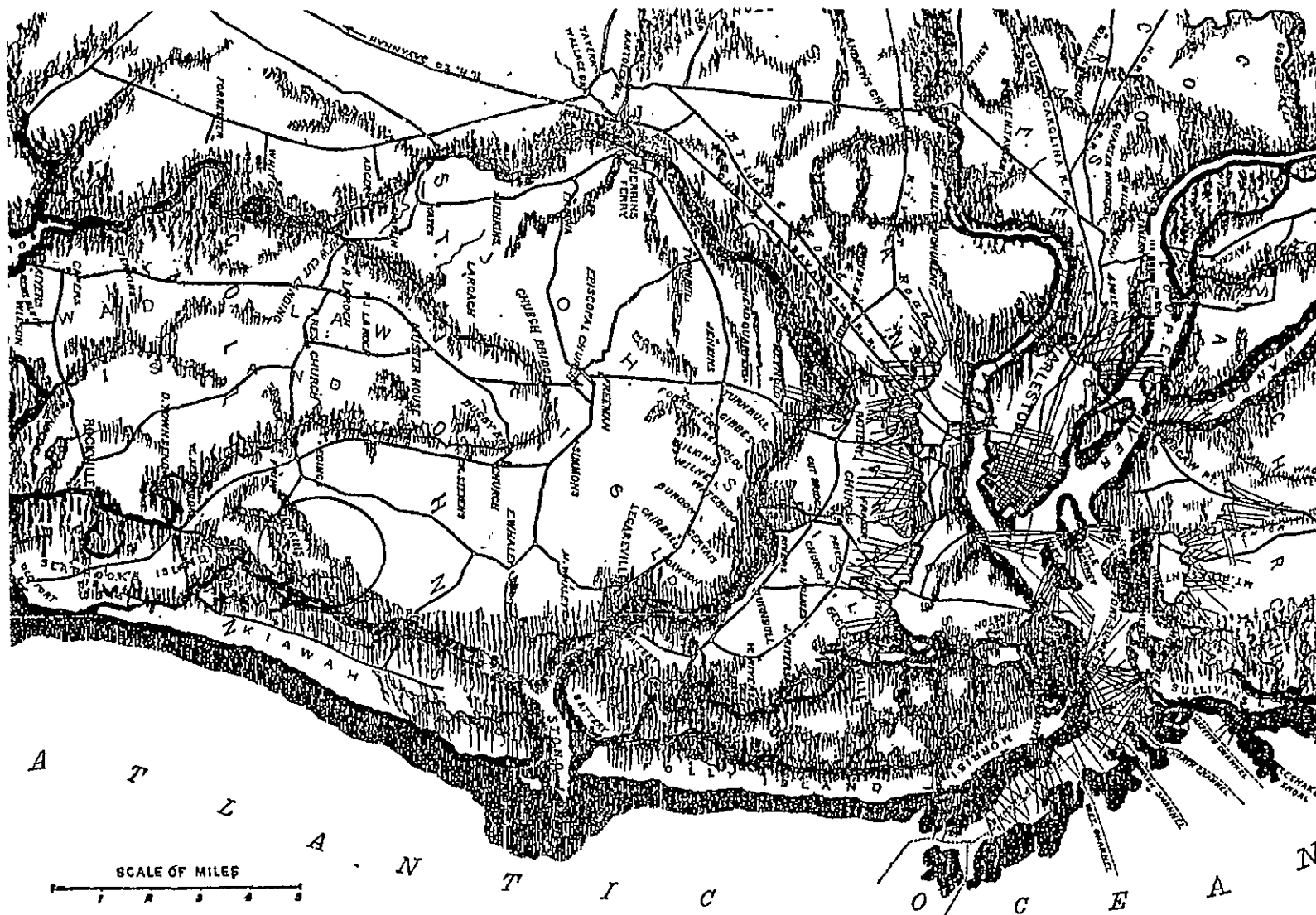


Figure 7. 1863 "Map of Charleston, S.C. Showing the Approaches" (*Harper's Weekly*, March 28, 1863).



Figure 8. 1929 Sanitary Commission Map.

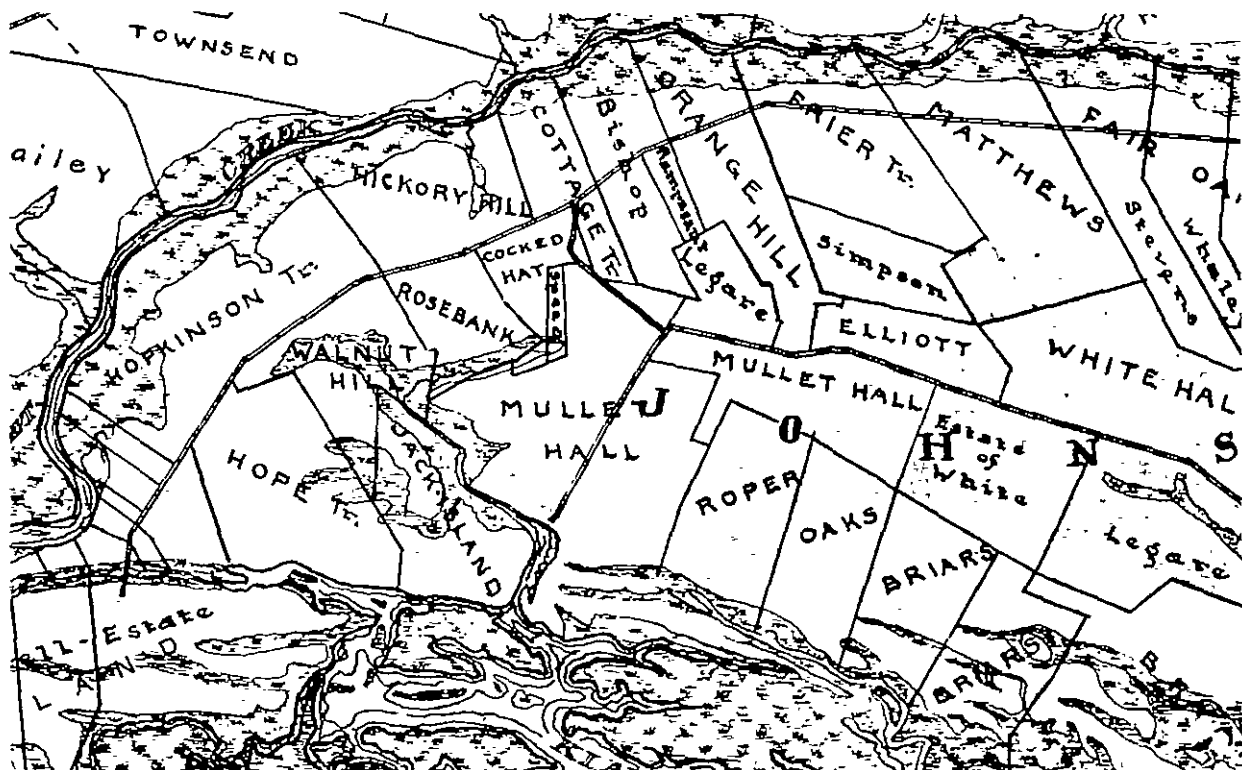


Figure 9. J.T. Killock map showing Mullet Hall, Jack Island, and Roper tracts.

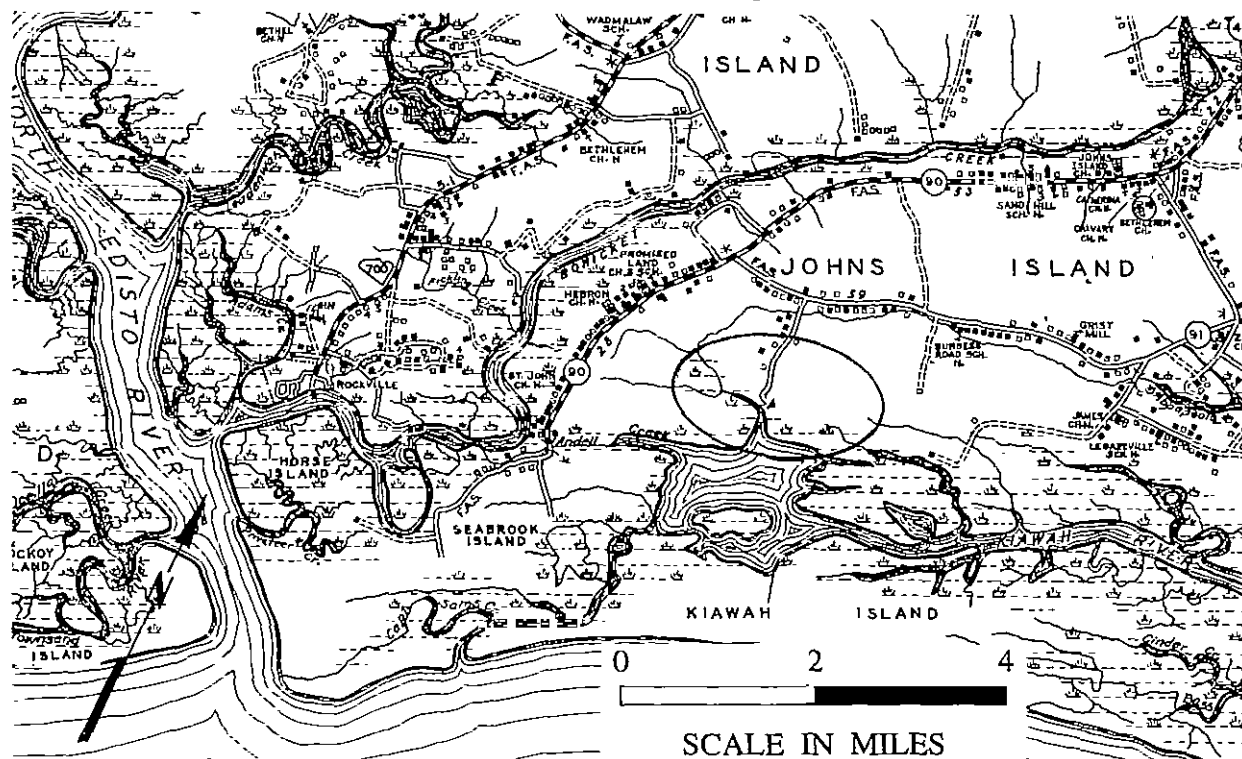


Figure 10. 1942 highway map.

FIELD METHODS

As previously discussed, the goals of the field investigations were to,

- the potential for the existence of cultural resources in the project area,
- the nature of disturbances in the area and the likelihood that they might have affected any identified cultural resources, and
- the potential eligibility of any identified cultural resources on the tract (within the scope and ability of a reconnaissance investigation).

To achieve these goals, the initially proposed field techniques for this reconnaissance level investigation involved a pedestrian survey of areas with good surface visibility (e.g., plowed fields and roads) on 200 foot transects. The minimum definition of a site in this study was three or more artifacts in a 50 foot area. Occasional shovel testing would be conducted, primarily to assist with the identification of predicted sites in densely vegetated areas. No formalized shovel testing program was proposed for this initial level of research.

Should sites be identified by surface collection and/or shovel testing, further tests would be used if possible to help obtain additional data on site boundaries, artifact quantity and diversity, site integrity, and temporal affiliation. The information required for the completion of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology site forms would be collected and photographs would be taken, if warranted in the opinion of the field investigator.

All soil from the shovel tests would be screened through ¼-inch mesh, with each test numbered sequentially. Each test would measure about 1 foot square and would normally be taken to subsoil. All cultural remains would be collected, except for shell, mortar, and brick, which would be qualitatively noted in the field and discarded. Notes would be maintained for profiles at any sites encountered.

Actual field techniques deviated somewhat from those originally proposed. After preliminary historical research had identified a number of plantation complexes on the tract, field work was geared more toward locating these sites and visiting areas of high archaeological (primarily Native American) potential (e.g., well drained soils adjacent to creeks). As a result, no formal pedestrian transects were walked, although since access to many sites required walking large agricultural fields, much area was covered in an informal fashion (Figure 11).

Metal detecting, using a Tesoro Bandito II™ using an 8-inch concentric coil (electromagnetic type operating at 10KHz), was also undertaken at selected sites to assist in boundary definitions. The instrument has the capability to operate in either an all metal mode or discriminate mode (which eliminates ferrous metal response). The all metal mode is the industry standard VFL type which does not require motion of the search coil for proper operation. The discriminate mode is based on motion of the search coil, but allows control over the detector's response to ferrous metals. The typical approach was to walk transects across the known or posited site area, with the transects alternating using an all-metal and a discrimination mode. Notes of possible "hits" or targets were maintained and used to assist in assigning general boundaries. No effort, during this stage of the investigations, was made to "ground truth" the various targets.



Figure 11. Large plowed fields such as these cover much of the highground area at Mullet Hall.



Figure 12. View of "created" site 38CH1539.

It is anticipated that field notes and artifacts will be accessioned for curation at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. Field notes have been prepared for curation using archival standards and will be transferred to the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology as soon as the project is complete. Artifacts will be cataloged using the standard format of the institution and will be transferred to their control within the next several weeks.

SITES IDENTIFIED

As a result of the archaeological reconnaissance of the 1020 acre high ground area of the Mullet Hall tract, 11 new sites were identified and one site (38CH487) was revisited (see Figure 2).

As previously discussed, reconnaissance level surveys are not designed to offer definitive determinations of site eligibility, or site boundaries. Nonetheless, opinions regarding site integrity or ability to address important research questions are offered *based on the level of investigation the sites have received*. Likewise, boundaries are estimated based on the information on hand. The generally good surface visibility, associated historical information, and oral history contributed by local informants all work toward improving the reliability of the assessments offered. Regardless, these assessments should not be considered definitive, but are intended to serve only as a guide and general indicator of probable site significance and general site size.

Previously Identified Archaeological Sites

As stated earlier, 38CH487 was originally recorded by Stanley South and Michael Hartley in 1980 as a part of their study of seventeenth century settlement patterns (South and Hartley 1980:59). The 1695 Thornton-Morden map showed that in this vicinity a Mr. Grice lived. However, they did not find any seventeenth century materials. The property owner, Mr. W.L. Limehouse, took them to a house ruin (38CH487, Area A) on Bryan's Creek, although still no seventeenth century remains were found.

Area A was revisited during this current study and was assigned its own site number (38CH1540) since it is a considerable distance from 38CH487 and does not appear to be related to its occupation. This site will be discussed in detail in a later section. The artifacts collected from 38CH487 by South and Hartley dated to the nineteenth century. No further information was provided in the report or the site form regarding site size, UTM coordinates, or potential significance. Clearly, the site form was intended only to note the presence of materials not directly associated with their research efforts.

During the current visit to 38CH487, the site was found to be located primarily along a narrow ridge in a plowed field. Surface visibility was excellent and a collection was made. The vast majority of artifacts dated from the mid-nineteenth to early twentieth centuries. A local farm worker told us that he believes one of the components of the site was a "company store" since he and some of his fellow workers have found store tokens in the field. Regrettably, none were available for inspection and it may be that they no longer exist. These tokens, however, were often issued in lieu of money, forcing workers to shop at the store operated by the plantation owner. While a convenient means of circumventing the limited amount of legal tender commonly available, it also served to lock workers into a monopoly.

A total of 24 shovel tests were excavated at 50 foot intervals in a cruciform pattern. Of those 24 tests, eight yielded artifacts. These tests, in conjunction with the surface remains, indicate that the site measures approximately 850 feet east-west by 100 feet north-south. This site appears on the 1863 Coastal survey map as a double slave row with an adjacent cluster of buildings (Figure 6).

The central UTM coordinates are E582620 N3610880 and the soils are moderately well drained Seabrook loamy fine sand. Shovel testing indicated that the typical soil profile consisted of 1.0 feet of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) loamy fine sand plowzone overlying dark yellowish brown (10YR4/4) loamy fine sand.

This site has been disturbed by plowing and the construction of an agricultural ditch through the middle of the site. The limited shovel testing did not reveal any intact subsurface features, although identification of features by this technique is rather uncommon. It is possible that further testing will identify intact deposits in the woods to the south where no testing was performed. Additional testing in the field may reveal intact subsurface remains, since the plowzone is not unexpectedly deep in this area. Even absent architectural features, the distribution of artifacts in the plowzone may assist in better understanding this site. Large scale stripping might reveal faint features which would otherwise go unnoticed. Surface artifacts in the field show only clear evidence for the slave row, while the larger structures shown on the 1863 map (Figure 6) may not have been identified in the field. An intensive survey of the wooded area adjacent to the site is needed to determine if the structures are present and to determine their integrity.

New Sites

38CH1539 consists of a scatter of structural debris and artifacts along the bank of Mullet Hall Creek on Jack Island adjacent to a boat slip (Figure 12). Conversations with the landowner, Mr. W.L. Limehouse, indicated that this material had been brought in and dumped from downtown Charleston. Shovel testing further verified that these materials had been brought in.

A series of eight shovel tests were excavated along the creek and inland at 25 and 50 foot intervals. Only one of these tests which was located within 10 feet of the shore deposit contained materials relating to this "site". In addition to the brick and artifacts, a large quantity of concrete rubble was found just to the north.

Shovel testing indicated that the surrounding land has been covered with at least 1.0 foot of fill. Underneath this fill was somewhat poorly drained Kiawah loamy fine sand. The central UTM coordinates are E582480 N3609560.

Artifacts consisted primarily of high status pearlwares and whitewares, bottle glass, pipestems and bowls, and window glass. These artifacts represent a site dating from the early nineteenth through the twentieth century.

The site is totally out of context and cannot address significant questions about Charleston area lifeways. No additional investigations are recommended for this location.

38CH1540 was originally defined as "Area A" of 38CH487 by Stanley South and Michael Hartley. However, since "Area A" is a considerable distance from 38CH487 and is unrelated, we have chosen to give it its own site number in consultation with Mr. Keith Derting at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. It should also be noted that "Area A" is mislocated on the original site form. Mr. W.L. Limehouse who originally showed Michael Hartley the location took us to the same site. It is approximately 600 feet further to the south than indicated on the original SCIAA site form. This error has been corrected on the new site form submitted for 38CH1540.

The site consists of a plantation complex with four loci: 1) main house; 2) cemetery; 3) early slave row; 4) late slave row (Figure 13). Locus 1 consists of the remains of a main house. This Locus is situated in a densely wooded area and contains a concentration of brick rubble and evidence of undisturbed deposits. A total of 36 shovel tests were excavated at 25 foot intervals in a cruciform pattern. Of these 36 tests, 23 yielded artifactual remains dating from the mid-eighteenth century to the late nineteenth century. This locus measures approximately 400 feet north-south by 500 feet east-west.

Locus 2 is a cemetery area shown to us by Mr. W.L. Limehouse. No markers could be identified and he remembers that these markers were removed when he was a boy. Independently Betty Stringfellow recalled hearing a story that they were removed to use as the base for a causeway. As a result, the boundaries of the

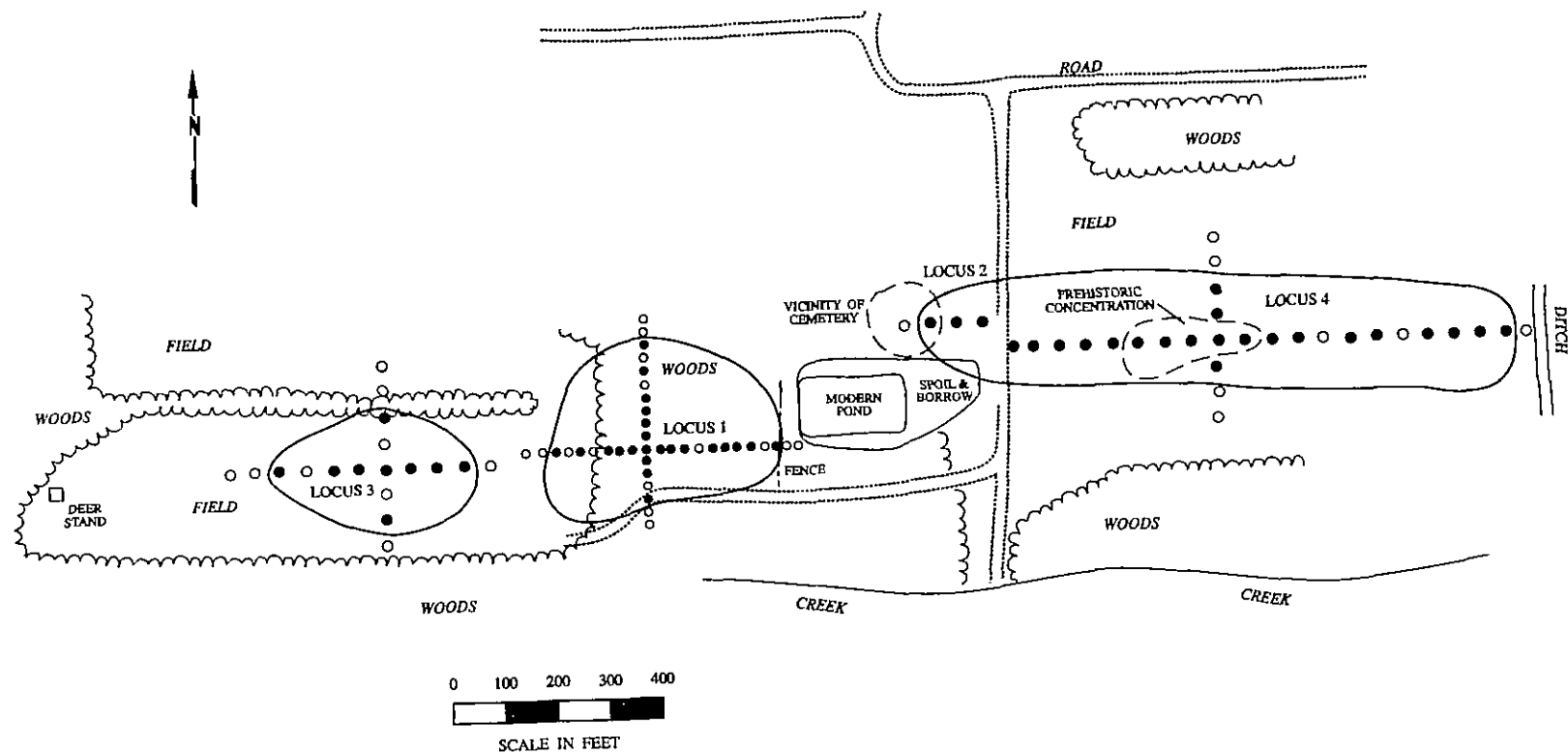


Figure 13. Map of 38CH1540 showing the four identified loci and the areas of shovel testing.

cemetery could not be identified. No clear depressions were noted. It is also possible that an adjacent agricultural pond and borrow area has damaged the cemetery. Since the boundaries could not be determined, it is unknown if it has been impacted.

Locus 3 is what appears to be an early slave settlement, with artifacts dating from the mid-eighteenth to the early nineteenth century. This locus is situated in a fallow field, just west of Locus 1. Surface visibility was moderately good and a collection was made. A total of 18 shovel tests were excavated in a cruciform pattern at 50 foot intervals. Of those 18 tests nine produced artifacts. This locus measures approximately 300 feet north-south by 400 feet east-west.

Locus 4 is a nineteenth century slave settlement with continued postbellum occupation. In addition to the historic remains, a relatively small prehistoric component was located in the center of the locus, dating to the Woodland and Mississippian periods. Surface visibility was good and a collection was made. A total of 31 shovel tests were excavated at 50 foot intervals with 24 yielding artifacts. Locus 4 measures approximately 250 feet north-south by 1200 feet east-west.

The UTM coordinates for the entire site are E583700-584380 N3610960-3611160 and the soils are moderately well drained Seabrook loamy fine sand. The entire site measures approximately 500 feet north-south by 2400 feet east west. The typical soil profile consists of 1.2 feet of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) loamy fine sand plowzone overlying dark brown (10YR4/3) subsoil. In some areas of Locus 1 there was a band of rubble or shell from 1.0 to 1.2 feet below surface, probably representing a remnant intact zone not yet thoroughly disturbed by plowing. The presence of this basal zone of intact materials is a significant feature which contributes to the site's potential significance.

The presence of intact deposits and the diversity of the remains recovered suggests that this site can address significant questions about plantation development on John's Island.

38CH1541 consists of a scatter of late eighteenth through early twentieth remains in a plowed field adjacent to a tributary of Mullet Hall Creek. The location of this site corresponds to a main house complex shown on the 1863 Coastal Survey map (Figure 6) and the artifacts surface collected verify that the occupation was high status.

A total of 29 shovel tests were excavated in a cruciform pattern at 50 foot intervals. Of those 29 tests, 14 yielded artifacts. These shovel tests and the scatter of surface remains indicated that the site measures approximately 600 feet east-west by 300 feet north-south. The UTM coordinates are E581720 N3620600-3610760 and the soils are moderately well drained Seabrook loamy fine sand. The typical soil profile consists of 1.1 foot of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) loamy fine sand overlying dark brown (10YR4/3) subsoil.

Although the site has been plowed, it appears to have been occupied for a long period of time. The site should be able to address questions relating to the effects of changing economy on the material possessions of the planter class.

38CH1542 consists of a linear scatter of early nineteenth to early twentieth century remains in a plowed field adjacent to Mullet Hall Creek. This site is shown as two slave row settlements situated end to end on the 1863 Coastal Survey map (Figure 6). Surface visibility was good at the site and a collection was made. Unfortunately, the boundaries between the two settlements was unclear during surface collecting and shovel testing. However, a rather arbitrary division was made in the field and this collection method allowed some statements to be made about the occupation range of each settlement.

The eastern half of the site contained mid-nineteenth century to early twentieth century remains. A total of 11 shovel tests were excavated at 50 foot intervals in a cruciform pattern. Of those 11 tests, eight yielded

artifacts.

The western half of the site contained late eighteenth to early twentieth century remains. Eighteen shovel tests were excavated at 50 foot intervals in a cruciform pattern, with 12 yielding artifacts. In addition to the historic remains, a very sparse amount of prehistoric remains were also encountered.

The UTM coordinates are E581760-582100 N3610360 and the soils are moderately well drained Seabrook loamy fine sand. The typical soil profile consisted of 1.0 foot of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) loamy fine sand overlying dark brown (10YR4/3) subsoil. The site measures approximately 850 feet east-west by 150 feet north-south.

This site is probably a slave row associated with 38CH1542. Therefore, it can address questions relating to the development of John's Island plantations and especially the relationship between master and slave.

38CH1543 consists of a small scatter of eighteenth century remains located just south of an agricultural pond. Based on the early date of the artifacts, this may have been a main house predating 38CH1541 which was a subsequent building phase. Alternatively, the site may simply represent some other early occupation by perhaps an overseer or single slave associated with 38CH1541. Nonetheless, this area appears to have been abandoned as a place of domestic occupation by about 1800.

Surface visibility at the site was excellent and a collection was made. In addition, 15 shovel tests were excavated at 25 foot intervals in a cruciform pattern across the site. Of those 15 tests, only five produced artifacts. These five positive tests indicate that the site core measures about 75 feet north by 100 feet east-west. However, the surface scatter is larger, measuring approximately 225 feet north-south by 250 feet east-west, which may suggest either dispersion or plowing or more likely mixing of several discrete spatial components. At the western-most edge of the site, an agricultural pond has been excavated. A shovel cut into the bank of the pond yielded a Colonoware sherd and some brick fragments, indicating that the pond has impacted the site. It is possible that what has been defined as 38CH1543 is only a small part of a once larger site.

The central UTM coordinates are E581800 N3610520 and the soils are moderately well drained Seabrook loamy fine sand. The typical soil profile consisted of 0.9 feet of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) loamy fine sand overlying dark brown (10YR4/3) subsoil.

Although the site is small and has been disturbed by plowing and pond construction, it is probably related to 38CH1541 and can contribute to an understanding of John's Island plantation development.

38CH1544 is a small surface scatter of mid- to late-nineteenth century remains in a plowed field. Surface visibility was excellent and a collection was made. This collection was complete and consisted only of about a half dozen artifacts. Searching the surrounding areas of plowed fields did not reveal any further artifacts. As a result no shovel tests were excavated.

The central UTM coordinates are E584540 N3610920 and the soils are moderately well drained Seabrook loamy fine sand. The surface scatter measures approximately 50 by 50 feet.

Due to the sparsity of the remains, it is unlikely that this site can address significant research questions.

38CH1545 consists of a scatter of late nineteenth and early twentieth century domestic remains and a sparse prehistoric scatter on the western end of a small marsh hummock. The site is located just west of a covered picnic area in an area with poor surface visibility.

A total of 12 shovel tests were excavated at 25 and 50 foot intervals in a cruciform pattern. Of those 12

tests, seven yielded artifacts. The shovel tests indicate that the site measures approximately 175 feet east-west by 150 feet north-south. One area of dense brick rubble was noted in the center of the site. The landowner stated that a well was once visible in the area of the site (Mr. W.L. Limehouse, personal communication 1994). This corresponds to an account provided by Betty Stringfellow of a structure and well on the island associated with an postbellum owner.

The central UTM coordinates are E582720 N3609820 and the soils are somewhat poorly drained Kiawah loamy fine sand. The typical soil profile consisted of 1.0 foot of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) loamy fine sand overlying dark grayish-brown (10YR4/2) subsoil.

While the field investigations of this site do not reveal exceptional integrity, the presence of the structural remains and possible well, combined with the oral history accounts of the site, suggest that additional research is likely necessary to determine the significance of the site. It may be that historical and oral history accounts, coupled with the recordation of the site's location, will be adequate. Alternatively, additional field investigations may reveal intact remains able to provide significant information about the postbellum lifeways of white owners.

38CH1546 consists of a small scatter of late nineteenth to early twentieth century remains in a wooded area of planted pine adjacent to Mullet Hall Creek. Surface visibility was moderately good in the site area and a collection was made. In addition, six shovel tests were excavated at 50 foot intervals in a cruciform pattern across the site. Of those six tests, three yielded artifacts. These artifacts indicate that the site measures approximately 100 feet north-south by 25 feet east-west.

The central UTM coordinates are E582720 N3609820 and the soils are moderately well drained Seabrook loamy fine sand. The typical soil profile consisted of 0.9 feet of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) loamy fine sand overlying dark brown (10YR4/3) subsoil.

It is unlikely that this site can address significant research questions. The site has been disturbed through the planting of pines which appears to have dispersed the remains, possibly along the plow furrows. This has resulted in an elongated site. The data sets are very limited, since no evidence of intact structural remains were located and artifacts consisted entirely of ceramics and bottle glass.

38CH1547 is a scatter of eighteenth through early nineteenth century remains in a fallow field located adjacent to Mullet Hall Creek. Surface visibility was moderately good and a collection was made. In addition to the historic artifacts, several prehistoric sherds were recovered. Thirteen shovel tests were excavated at 50 foot intervals in a cruciform pattern across the site. Of those 13 tests, six yielded artifacts. Based on surface scatter and shovel testing, it appears that the site measures approximately 300 feet east-west by 100 feet north south. This site does not appear one any of the available plats, and probably predates them.

The central UTM coordinates are E582760 N3610080 and the soils are somewhat poorly drained Kiawah fine sandy loam. The typical soil profile consisted of 0.9 feet of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) loamy fine sand overlying dark grayish-brown (10YR4/2) subsoil.

Although the site has been disturbed by plowing, it has the potential to address significant research questions about the lives of early John's Island slaves. Since the site appears to be isolated from any main house settlements, questions focussing on the issue of slave autonomy in isolated settlements can be addressed.

38CH1548 is the Bishop(p) family cemetery, located approximately 400 feet northeast of the eastern-most boundary of 38CH1541. The area is very thickly vegetated in muscadine, blackberry brambles, and young pecan trees which severely restricted visibility. We understand that in the recent past many of the trees were removed and the area was burned over. It is likely that this has caused some damage to the extant stones.

Only five marble markers were located, all of which date to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Identified stones include:

In memory of
Oliver G. Bishop
born Jan. 15, 1879
died Jan. 28, 1895

Mary E. Bishop
wife of C. Carr
Sept. 15, 1887
Feb'y 10, 1919

Kitt Bishopp
born July 26, 1826
died Feb. 26, 1900

Hannah Bishopp
wife of Kitt Bishop
born Feb. 15, 1868
died Oct. 20, 1918

Anne S. Bishopp
wife of P.B. Bishop
born July 16, 1858
died Nove. --- (buried under the ground)

Because of the dense vegetation, clear boundaries could not be determined. Before the cemetery can be properly recorded and assessed, the area needs to be cleared of vegetation, not only to locate markers, but also to be able to locate any unmarked graves.

The central UTM coordinates are E581480 N3610860 and the soils are somewhat poorly drained *Kiawah loamy fine sands*.

38CH1549 is a cemetery located approximately 400 feet east of Mullet Hall Creek and 400 feet north of 38CH1547. Mr. W.L. Limehouse pointed this area out to us as containing a cemetery that had been damaged during hurricane Hugo. After the hurricane all of the markers had been knocked over and were covered in downed trees. We have alternatively heard that the markers were knocked down not by the storm, but rather by the salvage logging undertaken afterwards. It is likely that the truth lies somewhere in between, with both the storm and the subsequent, poorly supervised logging, accounting for damage.

Presently, the site is located in thick, young myrtle and yaupon which hampered our search efforts. Despite approximately three person hours of searching, no stone were found. It is likely that they are buried under leaf litter and can not be located without a hand probe. It is also possible that the stones have been severely broken up by the logging, or alternatively, looted out of the cemetery.

Since no markers were located, the boundaries of the cemetery are unknown. As with the Bishop cemetery, additional efforts to identify the boundaries should focus on clearing the vegetation so that a hand probe can be used on a close interval grid to locate stones and so that depressions can be recorded. For this cemetery it is especially important that efforts be made to identify the stones, conduct whatever conservation efforts are necessary, and that the stones be re-erected.

CONCLUSIONS

As a result of the archaeological reconnaissance at the 1020 acre Mullet Hall tract, one site (38CH487) was revisited and 11 new sites (38CH1539-38CH1549) were located. It should be stated that this survey was performed at a reconnaissance level which is intended to determine the likelihood of archaeological and historic site on the property. The survey was not meant to locate all of the sites on the tract and assess their eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Nonetheless, this report has offered some opinions on the ability of these sites to address significant research questions, presented below in Table 1.

Table 1.
Summary of Identified Sites

Site Number	Type of Site	Site Size	Assessment	Additional Survey
38CH487	19th c. slave row	100 x 850 feet	PE	yes
38CH1539	redeposited	n/a	NE	no
38CH1540	plantation complex, w/4 loci	500 x 2400 feet	E	limited
38CH1541	18/19th c. main house	300 x 600 feet	E	limited
38CH1542	19th c. slave rows	150 x 850 feet	E	limited
38CH1543	18th c. main house	225 x 250 feet	PE	yes
38CH1544	19th c. tenant ?	50 x 50 feet	NE	no
38CH1545	late 19th c. house	150 x 175 feet	PE	yes
38CH1546	19/20th c. scatter	100 x 25 feet	NE	no
38CH1547	18/19 c. slave row	100 x 300 feet	E	limited
38CH1548	Bishop Cemetery	not determined	E	limited
38CH1549	cemetery	not determined	PE	yes

Site size is listed as north-south by east-west. Under Assessment, E = likely eligible, PE = potentially eligible, NE = probably not eligible

Eligible or Potentially Eligible Archaeological Sites

Seven of the identified archaeological sites (38CH487, 38CH1540, 38CH1541, 38CH1542, 38CH1543, 38CH1545, and 38CH1547) are recommended as either likely eligible or potentially eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. These represent the remains of three distinct plantation settlements, including main complexes and slave rows, situated on what is today Mullet Hall. In general boundaries for each site have been identified. In several cases it is likely that more intensive field investigations will be necessary to either determine eligible or to develop a data recovery plan.

In general, however, these sites (taken as a whole for the purpose of these discussions) represent a range of data sets. Eighteenth through early twentieth century remains have been found, crossing through the period of late colonial to antebellum plantations to postbellum farms. A range of materials reflects both high and low status artifacts, likely representative of plantation or farm owner and plantation slave or tenant farmer. Ceramics, tableware, glass container fragments, personal items, tobacco pipes, and architectural remains have been identified. Several sites have produced either good evidence of or an indication of potential features.

There are a wide range of research questions these data sets may address, especially since John's Island

has received no previous archaeological investigations. Chicora's work at Kiawah and the Charleston Museum's work on James Island offer exceptional bases of comparative study. Research questions at high status, main plantation sites includes:

- How does the artifact assemblage from the three plantations compare to each other and to the other assemblages available for study, such as the Stanyarne, Shoolbred, and Vanderhorst plantations on Kiawah Island? Do the John's Island plantations exhibit any less rural tendencies than those on the truly isolated islands?
- How do the architectural features at the John's Island plantations compare to other excavated Charleston area plantations? Are the houses simply constructed or are they more ornately designed and built? Is the same range as seen on Kiawah present on nearby John's Island? The plowzone at the bulk of these sites is no deeper than 1.0 foot, suggesting that architectural features may still be intact. In fact, at other excavated plantations such as Lesesne (Zierden et al. 1986), Yaughan, and Curriboo (Wheaton et al. 1983) which had been damaged by plowing still exhibited large numbers of intact features. In addition, the base of the plowzone at 38CH1540 exhibited a lens of rubble which suggests that features below this zone will still be intact
- How does the architecture and the layout of the plantation complex reflect current landscape movements? In other words, is there recognizable evidence at any of the plantations that the landscape was designed to reflect a Georgian world view? Is there evidence that the plantations were later altered to reflect the late eighteenth century picturesque landscape movement? Is there an initial blending of both landscape types? What does the plantation landscape at these John's Island plantations tell us about the view small plantation owners had of their world? These questions can be addressed through a combination of locating architectural features (houses and outbuildings), archaeological features (fence lines and roads), the relationship of the main house to the slave row, and historic records. Since many of the site areas are plowed, some of these sites are perfect candidates for controlled excavations followed by large scale stripping.

Research at the low status, primarily slave settlements, includes:

- How do the artifact assemblages compare with other slave sites in the vicinity, including those on Kiawah Island, and with the assemblages at the plantation main houses? What do these assemblages tell us about the similarity or variability found at plantations slaves rows? Will those adjacent to one another on John's Island be more similar to each other than, for example, those on Kiawah or James islands? Is there evidence of change in slave conditions temporally?
- How does the architecture compare with what is known archaeologically and historically about eighteenth and nineteenth century Charleston County slave structures (Wheaton et al. 1983; Zierden et al. 1986; see Adams 1990 for a synthesis)? Previous research has suggested that historical accounts of slave housing do not coincide with what has been found archaeologically. Only a relatively few houses have been excavated, and more data is needed to better understand diversity and dichotomy between written documents and the archaeological record.
- How do the slave rows and the surround areas fit into the planters' landscape concepts? Are houses rigidly aligned or are they unevenly placed? Is there evidence for fences? If yard features are present, what doe these features suggest about the use of extramural space by

slaves in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries (Westmacott 1992; Ferguson 1992; Adams 1990)? Although the landscape concept is not new to the humanities, only recently have archaeologists tried to implement field techniques to begin understanding historic landscapes. In South Carolina, very few plantation sites have been excavated with the goal of better understanding the arrangement of structures, work areas, fences, roads, and fields.

■ Is there evidence for alienation of the slave population? Some (Terry 1981; Orser 1988) have suggested that this alienation took place in the mid-eighteenth century as planters obtained more and more wealth. They then separated themselves physically and materially from their slaves. In other words, although the planter became richer, the slaves' conditions did not improve, increasing the gap between planter and slave. Is there evidence that slaves benefitted from the plantation owners' wealth? Additional historical research, combined with archaeological studies, may be able to address this critical issue at the John's Island plantations.

Sites Which Are Likely Not Eligible

Three of the identified sites (38CH1539, 38CH1544, and 38CH1546) are recommended as likely not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. At least one (38CH1539) represents materials redeposited from elsewhere (probably downtown Charleston), while the others are either very small or represent tenant sites with very limited data sets. It is unlikely that these sites have either the data sets necessary, or the data sets are in the condition necessary, to address significant, substantive research questions.

Cemeteries

Two of the identified sites (38CH1548 and 38CH1549) are cemeteries. One (38CH1548) is relatively well defined by the surrounding agricultural field and is relatively intact condition. The other cemetery (38CH1549) has been extensively damaged, possibly by the current property owner, and requires considerable attention (recovering and restoring markers, and delimiting the cemetery boundaries). At the present time it is not possible to even estimate the boundaries for this cemetery.

A third cemetery reported to be on the property is a locus of a much larger site (Locus 2 of 38CH1540). No markers remain in the cemetery and were reportedly taken for use for the base of a causeway, therefore no boundaries could be determined. Mr. W. L. Limehouse remembers that these markers were taken when he was a boy. There is an agricultural pond and borrow area immediately adjacent to this cemetery and it is possible that they may have impacted it.

Site 38CH1548 is likely eligible for inclusion on the National Register for the forensic anthropological information it contains concerning dietary patterns, disease, and health issues related to the African American population on South Carolina sea islands. The cemetery likely also contains significant information concerning mortuary behavior. Site 38CH1549 is potentially eligible, depending on the condition of the cemetery after additional research and evaluation. The eligibility of the posited third cemetery cannot be evaluated at this time. All of the cemeteries, however, are protected by Section 16-17-600 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, which relates to the destruction or damage of graves, grave stones, and burial grounds.

At some point efforts should be made to repair the damage done to the cemeteries, including identification of toppled and buried stones, repair to damaged stones, and re-erecting the stones. This work should be done to strict conservation standards of stone repair. Once boundaries are clearly recognized, we recommend fencing the cemeteries since physical boundaries offer greater protection than either flagging or plat notations. Provisions should be made to ensure access to the cemeteries by local individuals. Maintenance of the cemeteries should be conducted in consultation with the local community. There may be some tax advantages to identifying these cemeteries on the tax rolls and an attorney should be consulted about this and the other legal

issues surrounding the cemeteries.

Future Survey Work

Sufficient information has been identified at this stage to evaluate future needs at Mullet Hall. There is clearly sufficient evidence to recommend that an intensive survey of the property be conducted. This would involve two distinct phases or operations. The first would be a survey of the tract using shovel testing at either 100 or 200 foot intervals (the interval spacing depending on the probability or likelihood of identifying archaeological remains). Since much of the tract is being farmed, it is possible that some areas would not require shovel testing and could be investigated using a formal pedestrian survey. Other areas, either because of the vegetation or the nature of the fallow fields, would require shovel testing. The second phase or operation would involve additional testing at a number of the identified sites, to either confirm their eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places or eliminate them from further consideration. This would likely be conducted using several techniques, dependent on the nature of the site -- either close interval auger testing or possibly the excavation of one or two 5-foot units. These investigations should be conducted with sufficient intensity to not only determine eligibility, but if the site is eligible to allow a reasonable data recovery plan to be formulated.

The cemeteries also require additional attention. It is essential that their exact location be identified for planning purposes. While one cemetery is in the middle of an agricultural field and its boundaries are relatively obvious, another was in very poor condition and yet a third was not locatable during this study. Consequently boundaries determinations for two cemeteries were not possible. At the one cemetery with reasonably good boundaries (38CH1548), we recommend that the site be cleared and that individual stones be located, mapped, and photographed. This will provide a long-term record of the cemetery for historic, genealogical, and legal purposes. At the cemetery damaged by Hugo and subsequent clearing operation, we recommend again that it be thoroughly cleared of vegetation *by hand*. The use of mechanical equipment is likely to further damage the toppled stones and would further obscure grave depressions. Once cleared, the site will need to be probed to locate downed stones. These stones should be cleared off, photographed, and mapped in place. Those which are damaged should be repaired using appropriate conservation techniques for stone.¹ Those which are intact and which appear to be in their original location, should be re-erected. For the third cemetery, efforts should be made to collect oral history concerning those buried there, and the site should be probed for evidence of buried stones or grave goods. Absent any good physical evidence, we strongly recommend that the boundaries be established on the basis of the advice of the local people. Alternatively, it is possible to use ground penetrating radar in an effort to identify burials, although this is a relatively costly undertaking.

It is likely that some additional Native American sites may be found, especially along the smaller, more interior drainages. However, the current work suggests that Native American sites will be less common on this tract than historic sites.

¹ Typically, conservation of stone involves the least intrusive approaches which are reversible and not likely to cause additional damage. Approaches which rely on stone consolidants, harsh cleaning, hard cements, and similar approaches should be strictly avoided. The only competent stone conservator in this area, with which we are familiar, is Ms. Lynnette Strangstad of Stone Faces in Charleston. She has extensive experience working with large cemetery projects, including the restoration of the Unitarian Church in downtown Charleston.

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